

Editors' plea to be exempt from closed shop rule is rejected

By Alan Hamilton
Labour Staff

National newspaper editors expressed deep disappointment yesterday after a meeting with Mr. Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, at which they urged exemption from the press from forthcoming government proposals to legalize the closed shop.

The proposals will be contained in a short Bill, to be published soon, which will seek to restore parts of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act that were altered at the last moment by the so-called "Lever amendments". The editors fear that the passage of such a Bill might force them to belong to a trade union, and thereby interfere with their traditional independence.

The Fleet Street editors, who were accompanied by representatives from the BBC and Independent Television News, put forward suggestions for maintaining their freedom, on the same lines as the existing right not to belong to a trade union on religious grounds.

Mr. Foot said, however, that he could not accept the suggestions, but as a former editor of the *Evening Standard* he is clearly aware of the editors' concern, and has invited them to return for further discussions. He has indicated that although the Bill will contain no exemption clauses for the press when it is published, there may be scope for suitable amendments during its passage through Parliament.

After their two-hour meeting with Mr. Foot, the editors, led by Mr. Alastair Herterington, of *The Guardian*, issued the following statement:

National newspaper editors today called on the Secretary of State for Employment at his invitation and discussed the possible effects of a closed shop in journalism. Every national newspaper was represented, including BBC and ITN.

The editors put before Mr. Foot a unanimous statement, an event without precedent in Fleet Street's history and an indication as to the strength of feeling. The statement said that editors are united in agreeing that no editor should be forced to join a trade union, or other sectional body, although many are willing members. Nor should editors be placed under pressure to accept union instructions or directions, as they may be by repeal of the 1974 Act. To be placed in that position is incompatible with an editor's responsibilities to the law, to his readers and to his management. The editors said that this position must extend to senior executives. The statement went on to mention alternative means of achieving this aim—such as a

clause in the new Bill which would exempt editorial departments of newspapers, periodicals, radio and television from the closed shop provision; or a proviso in the Bill protecting senior editorial staff from dismissal because of refusal to take up trade union membership.

The editors' statement also referred to the controversy over non-union contributors, saying: "While accepting that normal newspaper work should be done by journalists, we wish to place on record our profound concern over the NUJ's attempt to restrict the right of editors to publish non-staff contributions in their newspapers." The Fleet Street editors expressed the hope and belief that Mr. Foot, himself an ex-editor, would see the need for safeguards and provide them.

During the discussion the Secretary of State indicated that he could not accept the form of safeguard put forward by the editors, but he was prepared to consider their views. The editors expressed their deep disappointment, but accepted the Secretary of State's offer of further discussions.

Mr. Foot also saw Mr. Kenneth Morgan, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, in separate talks yesterday. Mr. Morgan told him that it had never been the NUJ's policy to interfere in an editor's function, and that the union indeed defended that function.

The present dispute between the NUJ and provincial newspaper managements, which has erupted into a strike in the London area over dismissals at two newspapers, was in no way intended to interfere with the independence of editors, Mr. Morgan said.

Mr. Foot also told Mr. Morgan that the NUJ pursued total union membership in newspaper offices as a matter of policy, but there was no evidence that it had caused embarrassment to editors in a newly organized closed shop, the union did not take any action against non-members, he added.

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New Ulster proposals for assembly out today

From Robert Fisk
Belfast

Northern Ireland politicians today will find out how the British Government intends to operate the 78 man Ulster Convention to be elected early next year, in order to work out a new form of administration in the province. The government Green Paper setting out the role of the convention is to be published this afternoon and Mr. Rees, the Secretary of State, will make a statement in the Commons which will almost certainly reaffirm that any solution arrived at in Ulster must obtain the consent of the Westminster Parliament.

The new convention was first suggested in a White Paper in the spring after the collapse of power-sharing in Northern Ireland. Most politicians then concluded that it placed less emphasis than before on a coalition of Unionists and republicans. The Green Paper today will therefore be read with more interest than a White Paper. It is expected to produce proposals for a new Administration, to be put to the House of Commons. Mr. Rees is apparently not yet ready to give a date for the elections, but he may indicate today that they will take place in March.

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Unlike the Assembly, which was prorogued last spring, the convention will have no legislative role but will have about six months to produce proposals for a new Administration, to be put to the House of Commons. Mr. Rees is apparently not yet ready to give a date for the elections, but he may indicate today that they will take place in March.

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Would he have a better chance if it were any other car coming?

There'll always be the child who dashes into the road without looking.

Somebody who steps out from behind a parked car.

The other driver who jumps the lights.

No road safety campaign will ever stop people acting foolishly, even recklessly.

Sooner or later you'll meet it yourself. Maybe next month, next week, perhaps even tomorrow.

On today's roads it's almost inevitable.

And that's when you find out what performance in a car really means.

It isn't good 0 to 60 figures or a high top speed.

It's having a car that, whatever the conditions, puts you in complete control.

People often talk about the remarkable feeling of assurance you get in a Mercedes.

The way the power steering, for instance, keeps you in touch with the road even in the wet and snow.

The security of having disc brakes

all round on a dual-circuit, servo-assisted braking system.

But there's far more to it than that.

More than any other car a Mercedes-Benz is designed and engineered for safety.

On the 450SEL—or any S-Class—you can burst a tyre at 70 mph and the steering and suspension make sure you pull up safely in a straight line.

You can brake hard without any trace of nose-dive.

'Motor' described the handling of the 450SEL as "absolutely astonishing." One of their most experienced testers said it was the best car he'd ever driven.

In an accident, no car looks after you better than a Mercedes.

But in a Mercedes you've a better chance of avoiding an accident in the first place. Safety, after all, isn't only looking after yourself.

Not on today's roads.

It's looking after other people.



Mercedes-Benz

Magistrate condemns Children Act over girl aged 15 in jail

By Michael Horsnell

A woman magistrate condemned the controversial Children and Young Persons Act, 1969, at Camden Juvenile Court yesterday when a girl aged 15 appeared before her on remand from Holloway prison.

The girl, from Pimlico, London, was brought by the police to the court where Mrs Peta Timlin, the chairman, said that the Act had prevented her from sending the girl to an appropriate home.

Only the last-minute offer of a temporary place at a remand home yesterday prevented the girl's return to Holloway, Mrs Timlin said. The social worker in charge of the case had made up to thirty fruitless calls to other homes and adolescent units at mental hospitals.

Mrs Timlin made a remand in care order to November 27, when the girl will appear before Westminster Juvenile Court for sentencing on five findings of guilt for burglary. All the offences, the court was told, were committed while she was in the care of Westminster City Council, in the past two months.

The case is sure to renew criticism of the Act, which removed from magistrates power to make an order sending a child to an approved school. Although magistrates generally approve of the spirit of the Act, which was designed to draw attention of young offenders and their treatment rather than on punishment and discipline, they criticize the lack of facilities to implement it successfully.

The girl was brought to court on September 28 because her parents found her beyond their control, and Westminster City Council obtained a care order. She was sent to several children's homes, and was returned to her parents' home for a short while on the recommendation of a psychiatrist, during which time she committed the burglaries.

On November 6 Westminster Juvenile Court found her guilty for reports for three weeks. On November 12 Camden Juvenile Court granted a certificate of unfitness after the girl had spent several nights in custody

at a police station. Because there was no other secure accommodation, she was sent "with severe misgivings" to Holloway. The certificate of unfitness expired yesterday.

On November 27, Westminster Juvenile Court will consider its possible renewal and how she should be dealt with for the five burglaries. An alleged sixth burglary will also be considered.

Social workers say the girl is disturbed and has been bullied by other girls in one children's home.

Mrs Timlin said: "Under the Children and Young Persons Act we are totally unable to insist that an appropriate home shall take a child like this who needs help. Before (the Act) she would have had to be taken into a remand home."

She told Miss Lesley Harbour, the girl's social worker: "Because there are no facilities you have had to try quite inappropriate places." Yesterday's offer of a temporary place was "indeed a very lucky accident."

She told the girl: "We sincerely hope you will not have to return to Holloway. We have been very concerned about this case. This is not an unusual situation in this court, where we cannot find suitable homes."

Up to June 24 this year, the most recent date for which statistics are available, 20 boys and 10 girls aged between 14 and 16 were being held in adult prisons in England and Wales because no other secure accommodation was provided by local authorities.

An article in The Magistrate, the journal of the Magistrates' Association, this month, said the situation was unacceptable and indefensible.

In a statement after the case Westminster City Council said: "In all our negotiations with a view to placing this girl in a place for her, we have seen that her particular needs are well served."

"In this particular case we were unable to place her suitably in an existing community home for girls. Nevertheless, it is our earnest hope that after a period of remand a permanent placement may be found most suited to her special needs."

Difficulty of dispersing deadly gas in ship

From Trevor Fishlock Falmouth

The Government is calling a meeting in London today of gas experts, ship owners, safety specialists and cargo handlers to decide on action to move the containership *Asiatraveller*, which is poisonous gas leaking in one of its holds. Last night the ship was riding out a gale a mile off Falmouth.

The crucial difficulty is to find a way of dispersing or neutralizing the arsine gas put on board at New York. Two cylinders of it are packed into a 40 ft container, but it was not entered on a list of dangerous cargo and was therefore stowed in the hold instead of on deck.

Four of the crew are still ill in King's College Hospital, London. Thirteen remain under observation at Truro, and they, and the rest of the crew of 28, had further blood tests yesterday.

Although the hold has been sealed, and the ship is regularly monitored for traces of the gas, a way must be found of unloading it safely. "The problem is mainly a chemical one," Mr William Forrest, deputy managing director of Deaborn Ship Management, part owners of the 512m freighter, said. "We have to find an ingenious method of getting the gas out of the hold and then getting the cylinders out of the container they are stored in. We cannot blow the gas out with air in an uncontrolled way. We have to take account of the people living near by. We should prefer to neutralize the arsine but we have no solution yet, only ideas. We are not moving the ship until it is decontaminated, but once it is decontaminated it may go to Rotterdam, for which much of its cargo is destined."

Seatrains, the company that chartered the vessel, said yesterday it was investigating the packing of the cylinders. "At the time the container was delivered to Seatrain it was closed and sealed and the contents of the cylinders were not made known to Seatrain," it said.



Miss Shreila Hancock, outside Buckingham Palace after today's investiture. Her daughter, Melanie, holds her OBE insignia.

Solicitor tells of placing dead man's shares

From Our Correspondent

The difficulties facing the executors when Mr Frederick Peters, the wealthy chairman of the British Dredging Company died were told to the magistrates at Bristol yesterday, where three former stockbrokers are accused of theft, fraud and conspiracy.

The prosecution have alleged that Bernard Yorke Bartlett sold 23,400 shares belonging to Mr Peters' widow and kept the money, although she was credited with £36,251 in his company's ledgers.

Mr Bartlett, aged 64, of Manor Terrace, Brislington, Bristol; Gordon Chaplin Bradbeer, aged 46, of Heckford Road, Poole; and Frederick Herbert William

Wilshire, aged 35, of Station Road, Nailsea, near Bristol, face a total of 49 charges brought under the Larceny Act, 1916, the Forgery Act, 1913, and the Theft Act, 1968.

Reporting restrictions have been lifted.

Mr Henry Counsell, a solicitor and a partner in the Bristol firm of Veale, Benson & Company, said that when Mr Peters died in October, 1963, it was agreed to place blocks of his British dredging shares with stockbroking firms. He added: "They did not go through the stock market in the normal way because that would have affected their price." The executors accepted Mr Bartlett's advice.

The hearing continues today.

Wage-stop curb on benefits may end

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Government is considering abolishing the "wage-stop" rule, which ensures that unemployed men do not receive more in supplementary benefits than they could earn. Mr Alec Jones, Under-Secretary of State for Social Security, made clear during question time in the Commons yesterday that the rule is under review.

Mr Stanley Newsam, Labour MP for Harlow, asked for abolition of the rule. Mr Jones replied that the suggestion would be kept under consideration.

The rule is under heavy attack by poor families, the Labour Party and the Supplementary Benefits Commission, which administers it. The commission is known to be in favour of abolition because the rule affects comparatively few families and is complicated to administer.

About eight thousand families are estimated to be wage-stopped compared with 33,000 in 1970. Measures to help poor families in work, including the family income supplement and rent rebates, have raised the potential income at work of most of the unemployed families previously affected.

It is expected that the wage-stop rule will be gradually phased out. Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, is under pressure from her own party to remove the rule because the 1973 party conference demanded its abolition as part of wide social security reforms.

The Child Poverty Action Group maintains that reforms in the way the rule is administered have not been totally effective and that men who are elderly or sick or unemployed for a long time are not being exempted, as the commission promised.

Mr Frank Field, director of the group, said yesterday that poor families should be kept above the poverty line, in or out of work, through raising family allowances.

'20,000 fewer teachers needed by 1986'

By Our Education Correspondent

Government plans for teacher supply and training could be dramatically revised over the next 12 years without a fall in standards, according to figures published yesterday by the Department of Education and Science. They show that by 1986, 20,000 fewer teachers could be needed than the number employed at present.

The figures show that government estimates made in 1972 are wildly out because of an unexpected fall in the birth rate. The Conservatives' White Paper, *A Framework for Expansion*, estimated that there would be 9,719,000 schoolchildren by 1986. The latest projections put the total at fewer than eight million.

That means that the Government's target of 510,000 teachers by 1981 could be reduced to 467,000 without detriment to pupil-teacher ratios in the service training of teachers or nursery school programme.

But figures for the five years after 1981 show that the target could be reduced even further unless the Government is deliberately planning teacher redundancy. Only 429,000 teachers will be needed in 1986.

The implications of those figures will be discussed at a meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Supply and Training of Teachers on Tuesday.

Mr Frimence, Secretary of State for Education and Science, answering a question in the Commons yesterday, said that in January, 1974, there were 8,942,000 schoolchildren, and in March there were 426,000 teachers. (That meant that by last September the number of teachers exceeded 440,000. He said the number of teachers needed to maintain 1974-75 staffing standards in 1981 and 1986 would be 543,000 and 417,000 respectively.

Council seeks cut in use of toxic dump

By Stewart Tandler

The Government is being asked to reduce use of Britain's largest toxic waste dump at Pitsea, Essex, and to conduct a safety check of the 600 acres, which will receive more than 65 million gallons of waste this year.

The call for action has come from Basildon District Council, which has watched the amount of waste dumped on the site increase from five million gallons in 1971 to the present total.

Yesterday the council held a press conference to put its case, and Mr Eric Moonman, Labour MP for Basildon, tabled questions in the Commons.

Mr John Potter, leader of the council, said Basildon wanted Mr Croeland, Secretary of State for the Environment, drastically to reduce Pitsea's use and to commission an independent hydrogeological survey including water supplies.

The Minister would also be urged to encourage localized dumping to prevent waste from being hauled across the country; examine other methods of disposal such as incineration; ensure that public services in Essex could deal with any potential danger from Pitsea; and legislate for tankers to carry warnings and details of their contents.

The dump is 32 miles from London on the Essex marches on the boundary of Basildon New Town. The 1,300 acres, of which only part is now used, is owned by Redland Furze Ltd.

The dump takes both industrial and domestic waste, and 400 acres is covered to a depth of 20ft and 200 acres to 10ft. Basildon council says the dumping of industrial effluent has grown since the passing of the Deposit of Poisons Waste Act, 1972.

The waste was brought from all over the country. The material included paints, cyanide wastes and a category of waste called "undefinable/miscellaneous box".

Mr Potter said the site is surrounded by a 140,000 people

in an expanding area. Every month an estimated 3,000 tankers pass along local roads to reach the site, and that might give rise to accidents, he said. He said the owners had carried out safety tests but the council wanted that done independently. The Pitsea site and others at East Tilbury and Mucking lie above impermeable clay under which is chalk aquifer.

However, the council has learnt that the Anglian Water Authority's preliminary tests have shown there are doubts about the clay under East Tilbury and Mucking.

Basildon council is worried about this and long-term effects of the dumping. There have been cases of escaping fumes, an explosion which injured two workmen, and fires.

Mr R. Mitchinson, Basildon's town manager, said: "We are not saying the tip is unsafe, but we are uneasy about it."

Mr Moonman, who attended the press conference, said the company should have told the local authority of the increasing use of the tip.

A spokesman for Redland Furze said the company regretted that it had not been invited to the press conference and rejected Mr Moonman's comments, because, he said, information had been supplied to government departments and councils.

Mr R. Hawkins said the company had had frequent meetings with officials from Basildon. It had spent more than £100,000 on independent tests on the site, including 30 bore holes. Waste was also checked.

He pointed out that no cattle or fish had been affected by the dump. Hydrogeological tests showed that there was no danger to water.

But he agreed that more disposal operations should be set up around the country, adding: "Until the Department of the Environment gets their Act on waste disposal going, people will bring their waste." When the dump was working properly regulated dumps could be set up.

Bus strike spreads

An unofficial strike by 9,000 Scottish busmen in pursuit of £10 a week more spread yesterday, paralyzing parts of the heavily populated central area.

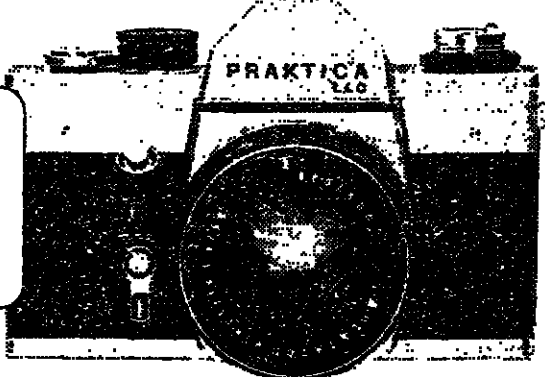
Signalmen strike

Rail services in Hampshire and Dorset shut down yesterday because of a 24-hour strike by Southern Region signalmen over pay differentials.

With Christmas coming up our prices are going down.

Praktica LL6 FL8 Pentax/Oreston
List price £122.34
Wallace Heaton
price £79.50
(Case £14.80)

SAVE
OVER
£42



Take these four great cameras for example.

Ask a man why he shops at Wallace Heaton. He'll say something like: "Service—it's friendly, painstaking, expert."

He'll say: "They've the world's biggest choice of photographic equipment."

He'll add: "And have you seen their transformed shop in Bond Street. It's bright, comfortable, relaxing."

He'll go further: "Not only that, but have you visited their new departments? Not just the photographic departments. But downstairs, where Wallace Heaton celebrates hi-fi. And there's the new video centre. The new binocular department. The new comprehensive equipment hire department (ideal for professionals and enthusiasts). The new film library. The new everything!"

That's why I shop at Wallace Heaton.

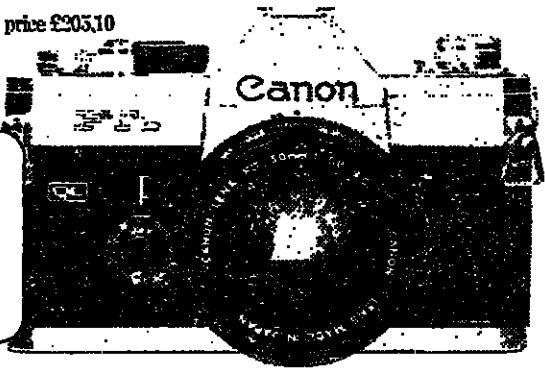
Well, here for the man who shops at Wallace Heaton is another profound reason:

Price. Although Wallace Heaton sells only products with the highest reputation, it doesn't make a point of selling them at the highest price. Indeed, Wallace Heaton price reductions tend to be pretty dramatic.

So, if you're in the market for a very special Christmas present (even to yourself), cast your eye over these four great cameras. At great Wallace Heaton prices.

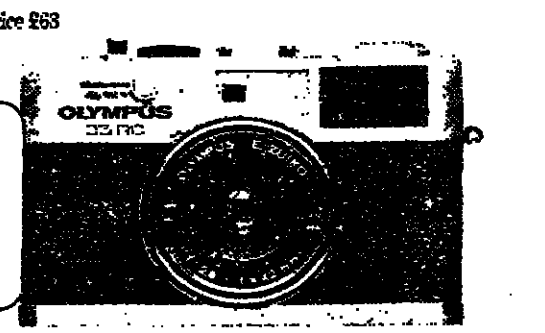
Canon FTb/N FL8 List price £205.10
Wallace Heaton
price £127
(inc. case)

SAVE
OVER
£78



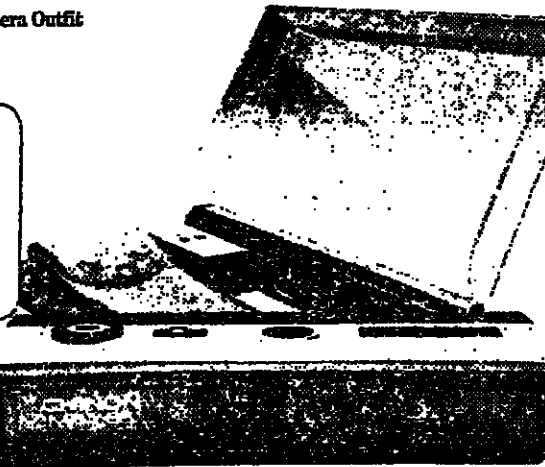
Olympus 35 BC List price £83
Wallace Heaton
price £68
(Case £14.40)

SAVE
£10



Chinon 66 Pocket Camera Outfit
List price £33.50
Wallace Heaton
price £21.95

SAVE
OVER
£18



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When good things to eat are good things to give, our Gift Boxes are ideal. We give you just a taste of our fine selection, but if you write to us we will be glad to send you our full list which includes our wine and spirit packs.

GIFT BOX No. 1 £3.50

Delivered.
1x1 lb. tin pork shoulder
1x1 lb. tin Matthew Walker Christmas pudding
1x104 oz. tin pork luncheon meat with truffle
1x3 oz. packet House of Fraser shortbread
1x15 oz. tin Extra-Choice peaches
1x15 oz. tin Baxters Turkey Soup
1x4 oz. tin Plumrose cream
1x4 oz. Chivers Table Jelly
1x3 oz. box cheese spread portions
1x3 oz. tin Sun-Pat roasted salted peanuts

GIFT BOX No. 4 £8.75

Delivered.
1x3 lb. tin Festival whole chicken
1x4 oz. tin ox-tongue
1x2 tin Matthew Walker Christmas pudding
1x14 oz. tin Matthew Walker mince-meat with brandy
1x1 lb. tin sweet Assorted Biscuits
1x1 lb. 8 oz. tin Dundee Cake
1x8 oz. packet House of Fraser shortbread
1x1 lb. tin Baxters' Superfine assorted chocolates
1x15 oz. tin Baxters' strawberries
1x15 oz. tin Extra-Choice peaches
1x15 oz. tin Baxters' turkey soup
1x15 oz. tin pineapple

No. 4 continued

1x15 oz. tin Extra Choice Bartlett pears
1x6 oz. tin Plumrose cream
1x4 lb. caddy of tea
1x4 oz. tin 'Le Parfait' Swiss pate with truffle
GIFT BOX No. 6 £14.50
Delivered.
1 bottle Blau Scotch Whisky
1 bottle Liebfraumilch, Langenbach
1x1 lb. tin skinless and de-fatted ham
1x8 oz. tin ox-tongue
1x1 lb. caddy of tea
1x2 lb. tin Matthew Walker Christmas pudding with brandy
1x14 oz. tin Matthew Walker mince-meat with brandy
1x14 oz. tin House of Fraser Pethobest Tall shortbread
1x7 oz. tin Sun-Pat roasted salted peanuts
1x8 oz. Bendaricks Bittermints
1x7 oz. tin turkey breast in jelly
1x15 oz. tin Baxters' Pockers Broth
1x15 oz. tin Extra-Choice peaches
1x1 lb. 8 oz. tin Dundee Cake
1x15 oz. tin Extra-Choice Bartlett pears
1x15 oz. tin Fruit Cocktail
1x6 oz. tin of Baxters' Royal Game Soup

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HOME NEWS

Pig shortage may put up sausage and pie prices three times

Hugh Clayton, suppliers of meat products as sausages and pies, who raising prices by up to a third, said yesterday that they are preparing claims for similar increases to take effect in January. They said they might yet see another rise soon or that.

Mr H. M. Newton-Clare, chairman of the Meat Manufacturers' Association, attributed the difficulties of the industry to the pig price and shortage of pigs. "We have warned the Ministry of Agriculture that we believe there will be an acute shortage of meat in 1976", he said. "Our aim is to secure a new European Community pig price embodying some formula whereby the producer's price is protected against cereal prices."

The industry was concerned if prices went too high consumers might stop buying, but if they did not go high enough farmers would be unable to cover the rising costs. "The largest meat wholesaler group in the country, said:

"I think we are going to see the end of the pork sausage as we know it." The Ministry of Agriculture said the number of pigs for slaughter last month was a tenth lower than in October last year.

Mr Newton-Clare said that his own company, Scott Bowyers, had faced rejection by the Price Commission for its first claim for increases on technical grounds. But by the time it had rephrased its case the price of pigs had risen so sharply that the company won half as much again.

"This rise is now totally out of date", he said. "We are preparing an additional increase and may have to go back for more next year." FMC, which markets under the Marsh and Baxter and Harris labels, said: "A claim will be put in towards the end of this month."

Fitch Lovell, which is implementing rises of 2p or 3p a pound on all pork products, said: "Technically and legally we could put in another claim but we would have to take very careful note of whether the consumer would bear it."

Scientist says a quarter of Britain's food is wasted

A Staff Reporter

A quarter of the food supplied in Britain is wasted, Dr C. Pereira, Chief Scientist of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday. He said British farmers are extravagant in their use of imported cereals for livestock.

His statement came as an independent committee on agriculture concluded that many stock farmers would have to make better use of their grass if they wanted to stay in business.

Dr Pereira said: "Research in development policy in British agriculture must be based on the assumption that the world market on which Britain at present relies for half her food supplies will become increasingly unreliable."

He was speaking at the weed

control conference organized by the British Crop Protection Council in Brighton. His waste estimate was based on surveys by food scientists of imported and home-produced food.

He said that research priorities should include the quest for a British wheat suitable for bread to replace imports from North America. There was also a need to eliminate waste in grain storage and from pests, diseases and weeds in the field.

Studies of the use of grass and forage crops should be supported by more intensive use of leguminous plants with high nitrogen content to replace chemical fertilizers.

"The ploughing-in of the residues of a good crop of clover or lucerne releases more nitrogen than any farmer would apply from the bag", Dr Pereira said.

Grass and Grass Products (NEDO), Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4QX, free).

In brief

More money for new towns

The limit on government advances to new town development corporations and the Commission for New Towns would be increased from £1,500m to £1,750m under the New Towns Bill, published yesterday (our Political Correspondent writes). The present limit is likely to be exceeded by April, 1975.

It would be possible by orders made under the Bill to increase the limit to £2,250m if necessary.

£750 'lump' fines

Fines totalling £750 were imposed by magistrates at Tottenham, London, yesterday, on John Anderson, aged 39, a painter and decorator of Dacca Street, Deptford, who admitted six offences under the Finance Act, 1971, designed to overcome tax avoidance under the "lump" system on building sites.

Girl-friend murder

Mr Justice Talbot imposed sentence of life imprisonment on Newport Crown Court, Gwent, yesterday, on David Christopher James Frosser, aged 19, of Treowen Road, Newbridge, for the murder of Gail Fricker, aged 15, on June 6 last at her home in William Street, Crumlin, Gwent.

Dustman charged

Ian Peter Hull, aged 28, a dust cart driver, of Vanston Road, Fulham, London, was remanded on bail to December 6 at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court yesterday accused of stealing plastic bags from the borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Last of quads dies

A girl, the last of the quadruplets born prematurely at Oldham, Lancashire, to Mrs Diane Lomax, aged 25, of Chiltern Drive, Royton, Oldham, after she had taken a fertility drug, died early yesterday.

Royal car dented

A royal car arriving at Heathrow yesterday to fetch Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips, back from Canada, was slightly damaged when a lorry reversed. Embarrassed officials stood in front of the dent as the couple got in.

Sued by colonel who slapped girl's bottom

Lieutenant Colonel John Holt Brooks, aged 64, a London solicitor, former mayor and "square", like slapping girls' bottoms, a High Court judge and jury were told yesterday. Mr Roger Gray, QC, counsel, said: "He admits with uninhibited candour but never does it without their consent."

An article in *The Sunday Pictorial* calling him "a menace to young girls" was an untrue allegation, Mr Gray added.

Colonel Brooks, of Carlyle Mansions, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, sued IPC Newspapers Ltd, Michael O'Flaherty, who wrote the article in October, claiming damages for libel. He contests the claim and id justification, saying the article was true, fair and on a matter of public interest.

Susan Carr, aged 19, had served a Private Eye advertisement for "good-natured ladies" to crew Colonel Brooks' motor yacht, *Adelaide*, age 11, on the Thames.

At a meeting in the colonel's office in Little Street, where three other men were present, flagella was mentioned.

Miss Carr, who appeared unharmed, asked for a clearer definition of her duties.

"Mr Brooks told her that if she came on board she must take her clothes off and agree to be smacked", counsel said. "Indeed the fee of £15 was mentioned—£15 if she was smacked, but only £5 if she was not."

On the boat Mr Brooks asked Miss Carr whether she wanted £5 or £15. She said she would have £15.

She drew the curtains on the shore side of the boat, took off her clothes and lay down on the berth. Mr Brooks began to smack her.

"After a while he paused and wiped some whisky on her bottom to take away the sting and reduce any bruising", Mr Gray continued. "He then continued to smack her for a bit."

"He cannot recall how many smacks he gave her, but he is a big, powerful man and if he had smacked her with any degree of severity she must have shouted out with pain and been much bruised. In fact she made no noise and the most she may have said was, 'That's enough'."

After the incident they had a glass of gin and returned to Shepperton where the chauffeur was waiting with the Rolls.

"They headed for London. On their way Miss Carr had so much recovered from her 'ordeal' that, in true feminine

style, she told the chauffeur to stop so that she could watch a wedding."

"That pleasant little interlude over, the young lady and Mr Brooks repaired to the Kings Head at Shepperton for drinks."

On the way to London, counsel said, Mr Brooks gave Miss Carr two cheques for £10. She accepted them.

The colonel used bawdy language reminiscent of the eighteenth-century hunting squire and had a similar outlook, straightforward and earthy, about sex. Such squires made no bones about their lusts and desires. As portrayed in *Tom Jones*, it was a rumbustious, romp-in-the-bay, bottom-slapping period, which made the so-called permissive times of the present seem dull.

"Every healthy normal, vigorous male is a bottom-slapper in mind if not in deed", counsel continued. "Mr Brooks pursues it at greater lengths than most."

"There is no doubt that he did slap Miss Susan Carr's bottom. He also did something which will horrify Scotsmen the world over—he poured whisky over her."

Colonel Brooks maintained that everything he did was with her consent.

The hearing is expected to last two weeks.

Dock workers mit pilfering 625 goods

When the police discovered pilfering racket at Ipswich, more than a hundred men went on strike, halting the work for two days. Ipswich strikers were told yesterday.

Men appeared in court today and between them added "fiddling" goods worth £5,000, a 15,000-ton stevedore, the *Wendell*, was told, had been stolen consistently from the docks 10 years.

Christopher Yule, for the prosecution, said: "It took the men three days to clear stolen property from his house and garage."

Garrod, aged 49, now of Street, Ipswich, admitted pilfering carpets, electrical goods, tin food, tools, clothing and chinaware, bed-furniture, books, house-hold goods and other items worth £2,295. He was used in custody to Ipswich court for sentence.

Other men also pleaded guilty to theft or handling stolen goods and were ordered to pay costs and compensation totalling £1,062.

Kin's RPO debut

Inducting for the first time train, Leonard Slatkin, the 2 American conductor, will be Sir Adrian Boult, who is to lead the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's concert at the Festival tomorrow.

Foundations crack

One of the 12 single-bed rooms at the regionalized burns centre at Victoria Hospital, East end, Sussex, have been closed because of a crack in the foundations of the building.

Concern at high cost of replacing council homes

By John Young, Planning Reporter

A public inquiry started yesterday into Wandsworth Borough Council's application for a compulsory purchase order on four large privately owned houses in Heathfield Road, close to Wandsworth Common. The council wants to demolish the houses, in which about 60 people live, and replace them with 30 one, two and three-bedroom flats at an estimated cost of £525,000.

The apparently parochial nature of the inquiry conceals a growing concern in government and political circles about the methods adopted by some inner London boroughs, including Wandsworth, to ease their housing difficulties.

No one disputes that the difficulties are acute, but it is argued that the cost of land acquisition, demolition and rebuilding is out of all proportion to the housing gain.

Moreover, it is argued, the social cost of "decanting" people from their homes to make way for new accommodation cannot be justified when thousands of people are homeless. Wandsworth, for instance, has a waiting list of more than nine thousand.

Ten days ago an inquiry was concluded into a proposal concerning six houses in Keswick Road, Putney. A report in *The Observer* suggested that the total cost of replacing the houses with flats for 112 people would be £1.25m. The council disputes that and puts the cost at £860,000.

By far the most contentious issue, however, is the demolition, which has already begun, of the East Hill estate, Wandsworth, where 640 flats are to be replaced with 480 new dwellings, each with an average of two bedrooms, at a cost of more

than £8m. The Department of the Environment indicated that it was unhappy about the scheme and tried, unsuccessfully, to persuade the council to rehabilitate the flats instead.

Mr Ian McGarry, leader of Wandsworth Borough Council, said last night that the decision on East Hill had not been easy. But the existing accommodation on the estate, which the council had inherited from the GLC, was well above acceptable modern standards of density.

"I doubt if there are many people in this borough living in worse conditions", he said.

As far as acquiring property in the private sector was concerned it was the council's policy to buy land in areas due for redevelopment where there was a prospect of a substantial housing gain. He admitted that in many cases the land was not cheap.

Both the Government and the Labour Party view the practice, adopted by several other London councils besides Wandsworth, of buying land at inflated market prices with mixed feelings.

They are sympathetic to the council's plight but feel that, with local authorities already heavily in debt and with signs of an incipient ratepayers' revolt, they should concentrate more on rehabilitation, even if that provides only a short-term solution.

Taking a longer view, it is pointed out, the Government's plans to legislate for the acquisition of land at existing use value should ameliorate the situation.

Many Wandsworth ratepayers, by no means unsympathetic to the council's dilemma, say they are appalled by what they see as massive and unjustified expenditure. "There seems to be a fundamental confusion of quantity with quality", one of them observed.

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HOME NEWS

Mr Ross calls in vain for end of school strikes in Scotland

From a Staff Reporter
Edinburgh

Mr Ross, Secretary of State for Scotland, appealed unsuccessfully yesterday to Scottish teachers to call off their strikes in support of more pay. He met representatives from the Educational Institute of Scotland, the Scottish Schoolmasters' Association and the Scottish Secondary Teachers' Association at St Andrew's House, and reminded them that their "competition in militancy" was seriously damaging children's education.

The institute is demanding an immediate rise of £10 a week backdated to May, which would give teachers an extra £300 in December. More militant action groups in east and west Scot-

land have asked for an immediate rise of £15 a week.

After the meeting Mr Ross said he was not hopeful about the response to his appeal. Mr John Pollock, secretary-designate of the institute, said they had not been persuaded to call off selective strikes.

The teachers' representatives agreed to pass on Mr Ross's appeal to their executive committees. Mr Ross said he had asked them to recognize that they would receive their pay rise backdated to May 24, so, in the longer term, strikers would achieve nothing.

The teachers were to receive an interim award in December, he said, but only Lord Houghton could decide its size.

Detectives think gunmen shot wrong man

By Clive Borrell

Detectives were searching last night for two gunmen who mistook their victim and shot an innocent man. They are convinced that a diplomat was the gunman's target when they fired at point blank range at Mr Allan Quartermaine as he was being driven home to Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Gardens, Fulham, on Monday night along King's Road, Chelsea. Last night he was in the intensive care unit at St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham, in a critical condition after an emergency operation for neck and head injuries.

The gunmen, both with 38 revolvers stepped from the pavement and each fired a shot at Mr Quartermaine as his car waited at traffic lights.

Traditional air for new college at Cambridge

Cambridge University's new £10m college is to be built, so that it will endure for centuries, the architects chosen to design it said yesterday. It is to be called Robinson College after Mr David Robinson the television rental businessman, who has given £10m to the university.

The college's appearance will not shock traditionalists if the city planners approve the ideas outlined at a press conference by the architects Gillespie Kidd and Coia, of Glasgow, yesterday.

Martin Chivers decree

'Martin Chivers, the England and Tottenham footballer, of High Road, Chigwell, Essex, was granted a decree nisi in London yesterday because he and his wife, Carol have lived apart for more than two years. Both are 29.

Busmen accept offer

London Transport bus and Underground railway staff have accepted an annual London weighting allowance of £270, backdated to July 1. The old allowances were £95 for salaried staff, and £120 for weekly paid employees.



Professional preview: Mr Andrew Cruickshank, Miss Dulcie Gray, Mr Marius Goring and Mr Nigel Patrick at the Shaftesbury.

West End theatre to reopen

By Our Arts Reporter

Supporters of the Save London's Theatres Campaign were out in force at the Shaftesbury Theatre yesterday to celebrate its reopening after ceiling repairs. Part of it collapsed in July, 1973, curtailing the run of Hair.

The theatre is to reopen for evening performances on December 19 with the Dublin production of West Side Story. Its opening in that city was affected by a ceiling fall.

Morning and afternoon performances of The Wombles Christmas Show will be presented at the Shaftesbury from December 15. There was no good reason why the Coliseum Theatre in London should remain closed. Mr R. Keenan, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees, said yesterday.

His union condemned the unofficial action of stage staff who decided on Monday to continue their strike and picketing in spite of a settlement reached between the union and the management of the English National Opera company. The dispute stopped performances on November 5.

The union statement noted that the action was entirely unofficial and that the company had agreed to give the dismissed workers their jobs back.

Conservatives give terms for pension approval

By Geoffrey Smith
Political Staff

Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC shadow Secretary of State for the Social Services, set out yesterday the Conservative terms for taking pensions out of politics. He was addressing a British Institute of Management conference in London.

He specified the changes in the Government's proposals that would be needed to secure Conservative acceptance, and recommended the appointment of a select committee after the second reading of the Bill to receive advice and make representations.

The critical point, Sir Geoffrey said, was over the conditions for contracting out. He accepted the minimum benefit rule, which requires a contracted-out scheme to guarantee a minimum benefit equivalent to that provided on retirement by the state. But he had three reservations. First, it was important for the rule to be drawn and operated as widely and as flexibly as possible. Second, he maintained that it was essential that industry-wide or money purchase schemes, which had been spreading as a result of the Joseph legislation, should

in no way be frozen out or retarded.

That referred to one of the most contentious elements in the Government's scheme: that in order to be contracted out an occupational pension scheme must be based on final salary or average salary revalued in line with the growth in earnings generally.

There are fears that by backing final salary schemes so unequivocally, the Government's proposals might put several otherwise satisfactory money purchase schemes out of operation.

Thirdly, Sir Geoffrey was concerned that the basis for contracting out should be set so as to encourage employers to accept liability for their own employees.

Under government proposals, a contracted-out occupational scheme would be required to provide a preserved pension for an employee who leaves before retirement age and to keep its value in line with the general movement in earnings.

Sir Geoffrey recommends that employers should have the right to transfer, for a suitable payment, the obligation to revalue pensions to the state, so that the employer would have to provide only the preserved pension.

Government 'dithering' over assembly

By Our Political Staff

Mr George Reid, Scottish National Party MP for Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire, yesterday accused the Government of dithering over preparations for a Scottish Assembly.

He said that parliamentary answers to his questions showed that only half the staff of the constitutional unit at the Cabinet Office had been recruited and that only six staff within the Scottish Office are assigned to devolution duties, all at assistant-secretary level or below.

He had also found that no specialists outside the Civil Service have been assigned to the Scottish Under-Secretary with responsibility for devolution. The Government has rejected Mr Reid's suggestion that enabling legislation should be introduced to allow plans for the physical housing of the assembly to be drawn up before the main legislation.

Rating revaluation date may be brought forward

By Christopher Warman
Local Government
Correspondent

The Government is prepared to consider bringing the postponed rating revaluation forward from 1981 to 1980, Mr Oakes, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, said yesterday.

He was speaking at the Commons Standing Committee on the General Rates Bill, which as it stands postpones the next statutory five-year revaluation from 1978 to 1981.

The purpose of the postponement, announced in September by Mr Cusack, Secretary of State for the Environment, is to take account of the findings of the Layfield committee on local government finance, which is due to report by the end of next year.

Mr Oakes told the committee that 1980 was the earliest date he could consider, taking account of the legislation that might be needed before revaluation could take place.

Conservatives on the com-

Fast 5p bus cuts car driving in new town

From Michael Bailey
Transport Correspondent
Stevenage

The new town of Stevenage, Hertfordshire, is well on the way to becoming the first car-free town to make the car superfluous for a large part of its 60,000 inhabitants.

An experimental Superbus service linking a suburb with the town centre and industrial area over the past three years has been successful in weaning commuters from their cars that it will probably be extended to the whole town.

That would cost between £200,000 and £250,000 a year if the present policy of cheap flat fares were maintained, but Stevenage reckons it would save £350,000 a year because of the Superbus, besides providing a valuable social service in off-peak hours.

A smart yellow and blue single-deck Superbus runs every five minutes between suburb and town centre (10 minutes in the evenings and on Sundays) and costs 5p for the 10-minute journey. With its 10-minute stops, it is competitive with the car on both price and journey time, and of course cuts out parking troubles.

Traffic on the service has risen from under 20,000 a week in 1974. About a quarter of the people who formerly drove to work now go by bus, and car commuting has actually fallen during a period when car ownership has risen, as has car commuting elsewhere.

The deficit on the service is £35,000 a year, met by equal grants from the development corporation, the borough council, and the county council. Next year, it will rise to about £50,000 and there are hopes of a substantial contribution from central government under the new rate-support system. Raising the fare by 2p would make the service self-supporting. A likely solution is to split the difference.

Welcoming an official report on the progress of the scheme published yesterday, Mr Carmichael, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of the Environment, said the fuel crisis made it even more important for commuters to switch to private transport. Stevenage Superbus Experiment: Summary report. (Room P2/081, Department of the Environment, Marsham Street, London, SW1, free.)

Victory for opponents of motorway

By Our Local Government
Correspondent

The threat of a motorway cutting through the area of Wandstead, east London, was lifted yesterday when Mr Mulley, Minister for Transport, announced the Government's decision for a new link road between Hackney and the M11 motorway at Woodford.

The Government's preferred route makes use of existing roads brought up to dual carriageway standard. There had been continued local opposition to the proposed motorway. The Government has withdrawn the other alternative routes because there is no likelihood of the M12's being built with a connection to the M11 at South Woodford for several years.

Their savings prove that it pays to adopt the Philips Lighting Plan

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Dunlop Textiles Ltd.
Fodens Ltd.

Grimsby District Council
ICI Ltd. (Fibres Division)
International Nickel Ltd.
Lincoln City Council
London Borough of
Waltham Forest
London Borough of Hounslow
Nottingham University
Powys County Council
Rolls Royce Ltd.
St. Albans District Council

These are some of the people who have found ways of offsetting the rising cost of electricity by consulting Philips on Energy Effective Lighting.

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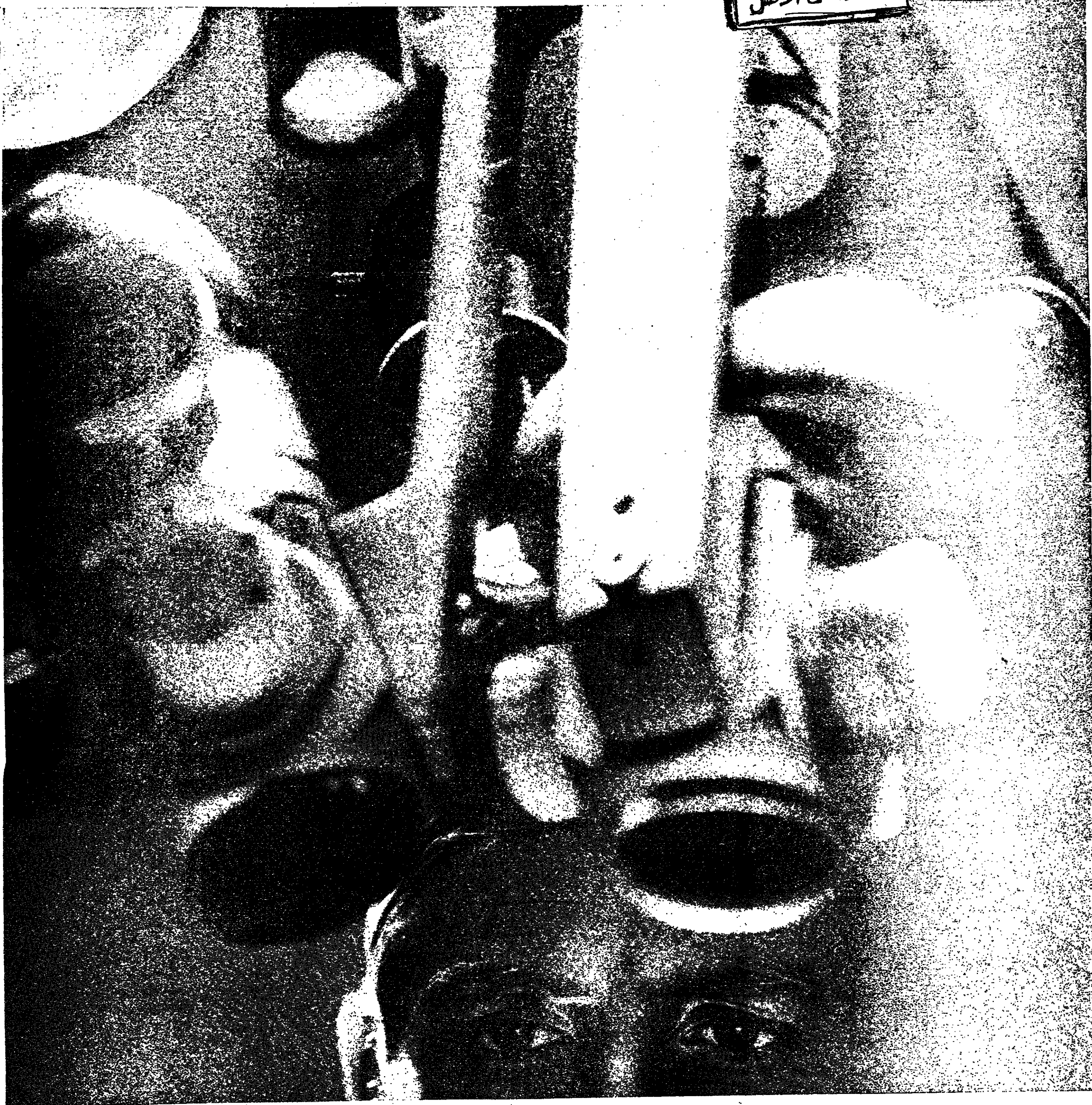
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French workers give lukewarm response to unions' strike call

From Richard Wigg
Paris, Nov 19

Workers in private industry failed to respond "massively" to strike calls today as the communist and socialist trade unions had urged them.

The Government will be encouraged by this evident restraint, due perhaps above all to fears of causing unemployment. But the Government has not won its battle of wills with the unions all along the line, for many industrialised industries did experience serious strikes. There were also well attended demonstrations by strikers in big cities, including Paris.

Against a sombre economic background, M Chirac, the Prime Minister, went on television last night and accused the union leaders of being a "demolition team" damaging the nation's economy.

Stoppages of varying length marked the private sector, the textile industry in northern France and the chemical industry in the Lyons-Rhône Valley region being the worst affected. But the steel and motor industries reported that the big majority of their workers stayed on the job. The Patronat, the employers' federation, provisionally estimated the overall figure of those who stopped work today at only 10 to 15 per cent.

In the engineering industry, the rate of absenteeism was put at 25 per cent, rising to 40 per cent in some regions.

Even in the public sector, France was well removed from general strike conditions. Virtually all forms of public transport were affected with rail, airline, bus, and Paris Métro services much reduced, but there were enough non-striking to prevent a standstill.

There were electricity cuts this morning which hit industry. Many teachers joined the "national strike" called by the communists and socialist union leaders and there were few classes in primary schools.

In his broadcast last night M Chirac rejected the idea of wide-ranging negotiations on the lines of those which followed the troubles of May 1968. This led M Seguy, the Communist union leader, to warn the Government at a Paris rally not to capitulate on the unions now capitulating.

After the only limited success of the unions today, the Government will inevitably come under pressure to move swiftly. President Giscard d'Estaing has kept in the background since the labour troubles started a month ago. He could now profitably order fresh Government initiatives. Charles Hargrove writes from Paris: M Pierre Weber, an Independent Republican, suggested in the National Assembly that the deputies should put on overalls and help to clean up the refuse which has accumulated round the buildings because of the dustmen's strike.

Leading article, page 17

Nato hopes to mend fences with Greece

From Roger Berthoud
Brussels, Nov 19

Officials and diplomats at Nato headquarters consider it unlikely that Mr Constantine Karamanlis's new Government will reverse the decision of its predecessor to withdraw Greek forces from the Atlantic alliance's integrated military command. But they hope that his very welcome electoral victory will make it possible to keep the withdrawal to a minimum.

Mr Karamanlis's tactic is evidently to play down the issue and to concentrate on forming a government. Future relations with Nato, he said yesterday, will depend on Nato. This is welcomed at Nato headquarters where there is no desire to force the issue in any way.

The non-committal approach is also undoubtedly designed to encourage the United States to give greater support to Greece over Cyprus. The contributions of the new Greek defence and foreign ministers will be heard with keen interest at next month's Nato ministerial meeting in Brussels. With Portugal's dictatorship also overthrown, this will be the first such meeting without a single authoritarian regime.

Very little has in fact changed at Nato headquarters since the post-junta Government announced both publicly and in letters to allied capitals during the Cyprus crisis in July that Greece would be withdrawing from Nato's integrated military command.



Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, being received by M Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister, at the Quai d'Orsay in Paris yesterday.

Jailing of Spanish strikers leads to stoppages

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Nov 19

Official refusal to free three arrested strikers led to more work stoppages at Barcelona factories today, after a weekend of clashes between police and crowds of workers and students.

After a 10-day lockout, workers returned yesterday to the Barcelona factory of Spain's biggest car manufacturer Seat, but thousands of them immediately took part in a sit-down strike demanding the release of three jailed men.

Way open for government to be formed in Italy

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Nov 19

The way now seems clear for Signor Aldo Moro to form a two-party government of Christian Democrats and Republicans.

The national executive of the Republican Party tonight expressed itself in favour. The Socialists and Social Democrats are willing to support this administration from the outside, thus preserving the framework of the centre-left alliance of these four parties which has been the basis of Italian political life for the last decade.

The Social Democrats reversed their declared policy in order to support the new government. Their move was presumably inspired in part by their poor showing in the weekend's local government elections. They and the Christian Democrats both emerged with disappointing figures.

The Social Democrats brought down the last government and, immediately after this move, demanded new elections. Hence, the results of these local government elections were of crucial interest to them.

Channel tunnel Bills before French Senate

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Nov 19

M Marcel Cavaille, State Secretary for Transport, in the Senate today tabled two Bills on the Channel tunnel. The first ratifies the Channel tunnel treaty signed at Chequers a year ago by Sir Alec Douglas-Home and M Michel Jobert; and the second dis on the creation of a French national channel tunnel company.

In the debate on the transport budget in the National Assembly yesterday, the rapporteur of the production committee declared that the committee was in favour of the project. He recalled its main characteristics: it will consist of two rail tunnels and a service tunnel about 30 miles long, about 22 miles running under the sea. The tunnel will take all standard trains.

It will be directly linked to the rail system of France and Britain. There will be terminals at both ends for the loading and unloading of motor vehicles. The terminals will also be linked with the motorway networks on both sides of the Channel. A link from Calais with the Paris-Lille motorway is due to be completed by 1978.

There would be one train every three minutes, and 4,800 vehicles an hour in each direction. Each train will carry 20 heavy transports or 260 motor vehicles. The Paris-London trip will take three hours, at a speed of about 100 mph.

Work is going ahead as scheduled on the French end of the service tunnel. Local unions have protested against the working and living conditions of men employed on the site (which are bad because of the constant infiltration of water), poor housing and long hours.

There is no indication whatever that under pressure of financial stringency the French Government is thinking of shelving the project. But last July when Sir Harold Wilson had talks with M Giscard d'Estaing here, it was favoured slowing down work on the project next year.

The final decision to go ahead will be taken only next summer when the third convention covering the last phase is signed.

The view taken in Paris is that by then both Governments will have spent 650 million on preliminary studies and the construction of the service tunnel due to be completed by next July. It would be very difficult if not impossible to abandon the project then.

Options revised: The proposed rail link between London and the Channel tunnel near Dover, after all, use sections of existing line through Kent. The possibility flows from a coming revision of options. British Rail.

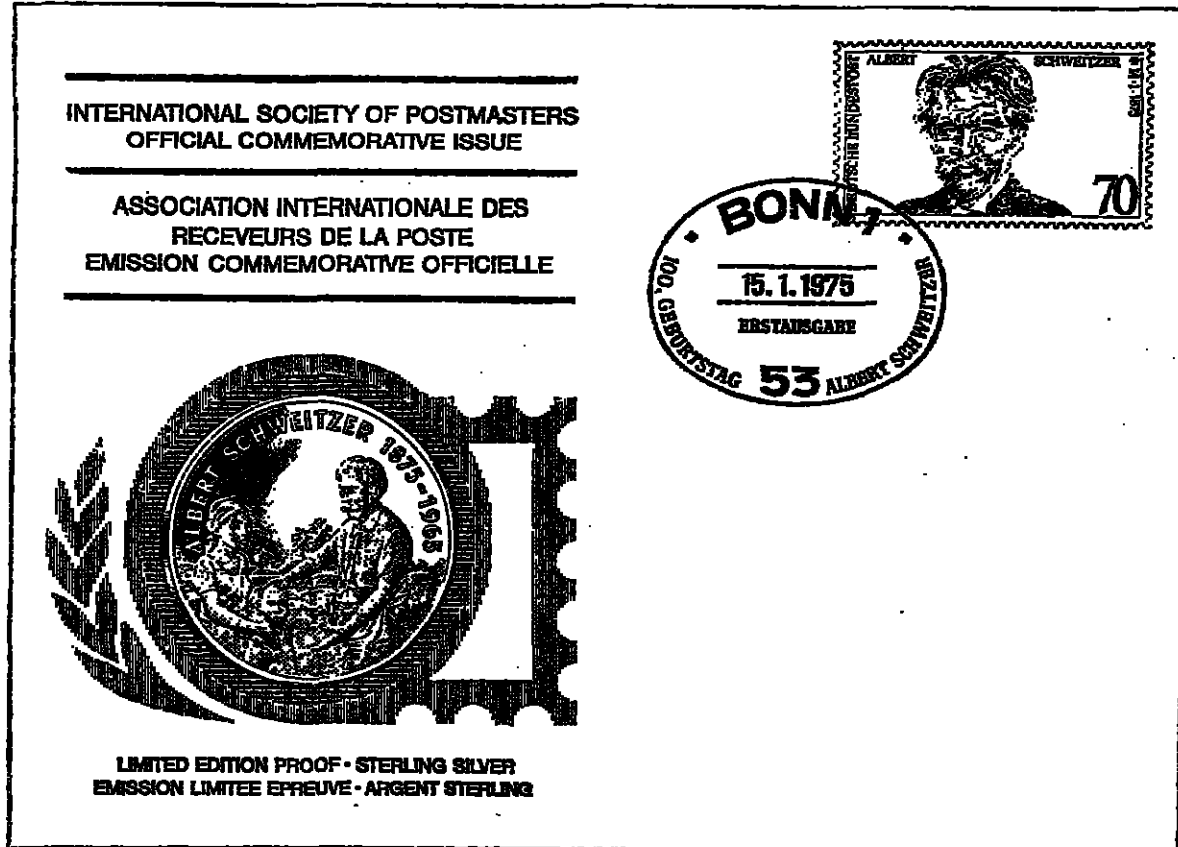
The cost of the rail link which has aroused considerable controversy, is still being put at £120m, at least a year's prices. But inflation means the cost could reach £500m by the projected completion date of 1980.

Rail yesterday dealt reports that they were showing the 150 mph service tunnel but confirmed that "pux" of old tra and new has been going on.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF POSTMASTERS ANNOUNCES

The world's first collection of International Medallion First Day Covers

Each month, the Society will issue a limited edition Medallion First Day Cover combining the most important new stamp issued that month anywhere in the world — postmarked on the FIRST DAY OF ISSUE — and the Society's official STERLING SILVER COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL.



Typical Medallion First Day Cover to be issued by the International Society of Postmasters is shown above, actual size. The cover illustrated — the first in the series — honours the centenary of the birth of Dr Albert Schweitzer. It will be postmarked in Bonn, Federal Republic of Germany, 21st January, 1975.

Privileged subscriptions now available. Subscription applications must be postmarked by 30th November, 1974.

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This historic issue commemorates the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dr Albert Schweitzer. It will mark the beginning of an official series of International Medallion First Day Covers honouring important people, places and events throughout history and throughout the world.

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Each month, from among the scores of stamps issued throughout the world, the Society will select a single stamp as the most outstanding on the basis of subject matter, design and collector interest.

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that Privileged Subscriptions will be accepted for the first three-year series only during November, 1974. The first cover will be issued in January, 1975, and subscribers in the United Kingdom will be guaranteed the original issue price of £9.50 for each medallion first day cover throughout the three-year subscription period (excepting, of course, any changes which may occur in the var rate). This is a most significant guarantee in view of recent rates of inflation and the likelihood of continuing inflationary trends in the years ahead.

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Iron Maid of Nuremberg up for auction

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Nov 19

The "Iron Maid of Nuremberg", one of the most cruel instruments of execution devised, is being sold by auction in Bern on Thursday. It is from the collection of the late Mr Adrian Conan Doyle, son of the author of the Sherlock Holmes stories, who once described it as "the most infamous woman in history".

The maid disappeared from Germany in 1570, was found again in 1834 in the dungeon of a castle on the Austrian frontier, and turned up eventually in England where it was bought by William Randolph Hearst for his armour collection.

The instrument looks like a woman, wearing a cloak stretching to the ground, and the painted face has a trace of pity in it. It is hinged in front so that the victim can be placed inside, with knives mounted on the inside of the door pointing inwards. Then the door, controlled by a clockwork mechanism, closes slowly.

Gradual EEC integration plan to help Britain

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 19

Herr Willy Brandt, the former West German Chancellor today proposed a "gradual integration" policy for the EEC so as to permit countries like Britain and Italy to enjoy different economic regime from those with stronger economic structures.

Herr Brandt, who was speaking to the French section of the European Movement, noted that the considerable economic differences between the nine member countries made rules and regulations of the EEC apply automatically to all a "dangerous risk for the cohesion" of the Community.

West Germany, France and the Benelux countries were an objectively more favourable position to pursue economic integration, he said. A "flexible" differentiated regime between the two groups would, however, allow Britain and Italy to be helped on the road to integration more effectively, he argued.

Social worker held over Berlin judge's murder

Berlin, Nov 19.—After more than 24 hours of questioning, a woman social worker was placed under formal arrest today in connexion with the murder of Judge Günter von Drenkmann 10 days ago.

The police disclosed that a Protestant clergyman, the Rev Cornelius Burckhardt, had also been taken into custody. The police said the pair may have acted as couriers in what was intended as a terrorist kidnapping plot.

The social worker, Frau Undine Zühke, aged 30, who is married to another Protestant minister, is suspected of knowing about the planned attack on

the judge and supporting a criminal organisation. Burckhardt is suspected of not having informed authorities of a planned crime.

A police official said Frau Zühke was suspected of having given Herr Burckhardt a note from Frau Ulrike Meinhof, the alleged co-leader of the Baader-Meinhof terrorist gang, who is in prison awaiting sentence. The note is thought to have been connected with a kidnapping plan.

The police had confirmed earlier that Frau Zühke, employed by the church as a prison social worker, had been in contact with Frau Meinhof.

Britons can use West German health services

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, Nov 19

Mrs Barbara Castle, the Social Services Secretary, and Herr Walter Arendt, the West German Minister for Labour and Social Affairs, today signed an agreement entitling British visitors to this country to use local medical services.

This complements an existing agreement enabling West Germans to use the National Health Service on visits to Britain.

M Chirac speaks

The British Government has failed to provide the public with adequate information about the advantages of the common agricultural policy, according to M Jacques Chirac, the French Prime Minister.

In an exclusive interview, to be published in *The Times* tomorrow, M Chirac discusses the renegotiation of Britain's EEC entry terms, the oil crisis, the presence of American troops in Europe, and his Government's battle against inflation. The interview appears in a Special Report on the first six months of M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's presidency.

تَكَذَّبُ مِنَ الْأَصْلِ

Watergate trial hears of the search for suitable scapegoat

morning included a hitherto unknown passage which says that Mr. Nixon had intended to dispense with Mr. Rogers's services that summer, but postponed his departure because of Watergate.

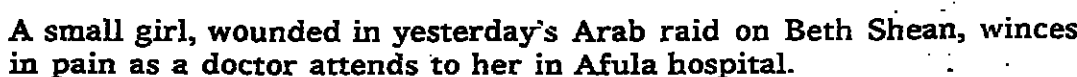
It is essential that Rogers' departure be delayed until this summer," said the President.

Mr. Colson: "Brain damage from an automobile accident". The President: "We'll build that son-of-a-bitch up like nobody's business. We'll have Buckley [the conservative columnist and friend of Mr. Hunt's] write a column and say, you know, that he should have clemency . . ."

Daley aide jailed over land deals

Mr Daley said after the sentence had been passed that it was "an unfortunate thing" to happen to "a fine public official and such a fine friend."

Mr Keane's conviction is the latest in a series of successes by Mr James Thompson, the United States Attorney for the area and a Republican, who has made a point of investigating the Democratic machine.



Good and bad on the Moscow arts scene

pleased with this invitation, the artists suspect some kind of Machiavellian manoeuvre designed to split their group. But most observers view it as

No amount of persuasion by Mr Robert Ford, the Canadian Ambassador, could prevent him from packing his bags, leaving his engagements unfulfilled.

Mr Clerides in London for crucial Cyprus talks

Mr Clerides has stated publicly in Nicosia that a solution based on a geographic division is the only realistic thing; and in face of the Turkish determination to maintain the present *de facto* bizonal division of the island he has also indicated that the ultimate solution will have to be bizonal. The United States and British Governments certainly regard this as the only practicable way forward.

Filipino releases ambassador after gun siege

Manila, Nov. 19.—President Marcos said Mr Lechoco's 17-year-old son's application to join his family in the United States had been delayed because it was mistaken for another person with the same name who was considered a security risk.

Mozambique seeks wheat from South Africa

wheat ordered from the United States. It was unfortunate, he said, that the appeal had come when wheat reserves in the Republic were low, but South Africa would do everything

Opening a parliamentary session, he said that Botswana was therefore happy with the "new attitude" displayed by the South African Government.

Shah of Iran talks with Soviet leaders

Moscow, Nov 19.—The Shah of Iran today had three hours' talks with Soviet leaders, reported to be centred on economic, cultural and technical questions. He arrived yesterday for a three-day visit. The talks were believed also to have covered the troubled relations between Iran and

Stomach cancer operation on Mr Chou denied

The report, which did not quote a specific source, said that the operation was carried out some 10 weeks ago.

Mr Chou has been sick since

Charles Manson jail escape plot is foiled

As a result, Mr Manson was transferred back to Folsom prison in central California where he is under constant

that the ultimate solution will have to be bizonal. The United States and British Governments certainly regard this as the only practicable way forward.

State, when he visits Ankara to urge the Turks to withdraw from most of the territory which they now occupy in Cyprus to a much restricted zone round Kyrenia.

"If he had only requested that his son's departure be facilitated, then there would have been no problem", President Marcos said in a radio and television interview.—Reuter..

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Opening a parliamentary session, he said that Botswana was therefore happy with the "new attitude" displayed by the South African Government.

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OVERSEAS

Nuclear weapon row
sours opening of
Mr Ford's Tokyo visit

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Nov 19
After being received officially by Emperor Hirohito at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo today President Ford began his working visit to Japan. He was immediately embroiled in an embarrassing controversy over the visits of nuclear-armed United States Navy vessels to Japanese ports.

The issue, which was raised in secret when President Ford met Mr Tanaka, the Japanese Prime Minister, for formal discussions this morning, emerged into public debate later today after Tokyo's left-wing Governor, Mr Ryokichi Minobe, confronted the visiting American head of state with the charge.

It also became apparent later today that while the first round of summit talks between Japanese and American leaders today was described as "successful", Mr Tanaka made it abundantly clear to Mr Ford that Japan is not prepared to comply with Dr Kissinger's plan to reduce the oil imports of industrialized consuming nations.

The Governor of Tokyo, who paid a 20-minute courtesy call on the President in more than 100 years and therefore it is an historical occasion. I feel that it has been very bad timing to have such a momentous event take place at a time when the public support of the leader of the host country had dropped to a miserable level of about 10 per cent.

Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, who is accompanying President Ford, was evasive when questioned on the issue today.

He admitted that President Ford had discussed the matter with Mr Tanaka but he refused to confirm or deny charges that American ships have carried nuclear weapons into Japanese ports with the secret permission of the Japanese Government (under the security treaty the United States must seek the permission of the Japanese Government before it transfers nuclear weapons into Japan).

The issue has received much attention in Japan because if the allegations are proved correct, Mr Tanaka's Government is certain to fall.

Dr Kissinger told the press today that President Ford had assured Mr Tanaka that he understood the Japanese people's special fears of nuclear issues and "the problem will be handled as it has been

Using unusually strong words for a Japanese politician, Mr Minobe said: "I find the President's remarks difficult to understand. The people of Tokyo want to know whether American ships are bringing nuclear weapons into Japan and I feel justified in acting as their spokesman."

"President Ford said he felt the matter could only be discussed between heads of government. I must say I came away from the meeting feeling dissatisfied. I felt that President Ford is not prepared to hear the real view of the Japanese people and I find this very strange."

Commenting on the public's general disinterest in the first visit of an American President, Mr Minobe claimed the mood of indifference reflects the unpopularity of the Prime Minister.

Upsetting the polite tone of the presidential trip, the governor of the host city went on to declare: "After all it was the Prime Minister who invited President Ford. It's a great pity. This is the first official visit by an American President in more than 100 years and therefore it is an historical occasion. I feel that it has been very bad timing to have such a momentous event take place at a time when the public support of the leader of the host country had dropped to a miserable level of about 10 per cent."

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Making history: Emperor Hirohito greets President Ford in the first meeting yesterday between Japanese and American heads of state on Japanese soil.

handled within the framework of the mutual security agreement between the two countries."

When asked whether President Ford had given Mr Tanaka a specific assurance that American naval vessels do not carry nuclear weapons into Japan, Dr Kissinger said: "I will not go beyond what I have said."

In the first setback of an otherwise successful visit Dr Kissinger's evasive answers left Japanese journalists with a clear impression that the United States is carrying nuclear weapons into Japan.

Dr Kissinger went on to explain that the two leaders had also discussed Washington's plan to persuade oil consuming nations to reduce their imports. It is obvious that Mr Tanaka reiterated Japan's stand and pointed out that the nation, which has to import 95 per cent of its oil, cannot afford to cut back on supplies.

"President Ford told Mr Tanaka that the United States attaches great importance to the programme we outlined last week for solidarity among the oil consumers."

"The Japanese side said that special problems exist in Japan, including the heavy dependence

on oil imports and the difference in the proportions of consumption of energy between the United States and Japan that Japan consumes about 10 per cent of its oil for industrial consumption and 30 per cent for private use while the opposite obtains in the United States". Dr Kissinger said indicated vaguely that the United States appreciates Japan's difficulties.

The Secretary of State said that he believes that the United States can supply Japan and other nations a supply of agricultural products for the foreseeable future.

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Seven killed in New
Guinea tribal fight

Port Moresby, Nov 19.—Seven tribesmen in the New Guinea western highlands were killed in a revenge raid on a village at dawn yesterday.

Massive inflation threatens the industrial miracle
which helped people forget lack of freedom

Economic crisis strains Brazilian society

From Stuart Stirling
Buenos Aires, Nov 19

The great Brazilian economic miracle is today gripped by inflation running at 33 per cent, this is creating discontent among a people who are now voicing a common desire for a more moderate economic and socially just society, after almost 10 years of military rule.

The humiliating defeat of the Government party in Friday's parliamentary elections by the only opposition party permitted in the country, is a reflection of the economic plight of the workers, whose lives have been laid the foundations for attracting huge foreign investment to Brazil, creating the conditions for an economic boom.

However, the landslide victory of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (MDB) over the official Government party, the National Renewal Alliance Party (Arena), will in no way curb the powers of President Ernesto Geisel or affect the status quo of the conservative generals, who have been in power since the military coup which ousted the constitutionally-elected president, Senator Goulart, in 1964.

The Brazilian parliament will still be dependent on the conservative government, as its powers are still in abeyance. Since he was elected five months ago for a six-year presidential term, Senator Geisel, has introduced a gradual relaxation of the rigid military and police rule to which Brazilians have become accustomed. The country, however, is still governed by strict censorship of the press and a brutal secret

police. Only recently an American freelance journalist working for Time magazine was horribly tortured in Recife.

The parliamentary victory of the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party will, however, enable the "official" opposition to voice somewhat more effectively than before, a modified opinion about the Government's running of the country, though such freedom, political observers believe, will be only relative.

Only one third of the Senate's 66 seats were up for reelection last Friday, which still gives the Government party a large majority in the Upper House of Parliament. Though, in the federal chamber, the Opposition party with a third of the total vote, will have the upper hand.

Political observers believe, however, that the main economic and political themes will still be restricted to government censorship, thus making it impossible for the views of the Opposition to receive the necessary coverage in the press.

The Opposition's victory may possibly be the tip of a political iceberg, which if there be no sudden reaction from a conservative military backlash, could lead to a gradual return towards a democratic society. At present military and military control over the Opposition parties is as bleak to its inactive leaders, as the idea of political freedom is abhorrent to the conservative military. Only time will tell which way the political pendulum will swing.

More than 250 political leaders, among them the former Presidents Senator Juscelino Kubitschek (1956-61), Senator Jânio Quadros (1961-64), are still living in the political wilderness. Their parties, among them the Social Democrats, the National Democratic Union, the Labour Party and the Socialist Party, were all banned by the military in a Government decree in 1965.

President Geisel is now faced with staggering inflation, caused by the rise in oil prices, which is hitting the poor and workers hardest.

The economic miracle, which had in the past made Brazilians ignore their basic human rights and freedoms, is in danger of collapsing unless the Government is able to curb inflation.

In the industrial metropolis of São Paulo the climate of discontent with the Government is reported to be so high that the Governor, Senator Egídio Martins, told industrialists and businessmen that voting for the Opposition in last Friday's elections would only create a setback in the democratic process which President Geisel has implemented—in the event that conservatives take this as a sign to further tighten controls and ignore the chronic inflation situation.

The future for democracy in Brazil still very much depends on the reaction of the military to the Government's crushing defeat in the elections. However, in the long run the Government's handling of the economy will be the ultimate factor in bringing stability, if not democracy, to Latin America's wealthiest nation.

S Korea asks
UN to act over
tunnel 'plot'

Seoul, Nov 19.—The S Korean National Assembly asked the United Nations to take "appropriate measures against a North Korean aggression".

In a message to the United Nations, the National Assembly said: "A North Korean tunnel uncovered last Friday on western front not only constitutes a serious violation of Korean armistice agreement but also threatens international peace and security."

The tunnel was found Friday, by an Army patrol the southern portion of demilitarized zone separates North and South Korea. It reported to be 4ft high and wide, reinforced with prefabricated concrete slabs equipped with a narrow gauge railway.

President Park's Government says that the tunnel, unlike previous North Korean violations in the zone, represents systematic plot to launch large-scale surprise attack South Korea. North Korea day rejected a proposal by United Nations Commission to call a meeting of Armistice Commission to discuss the tension over demilitarized zone; but in counter proposal, the North Koreans said the meeting could be held after President Park visits to Seoul at the end of the week.—AP and Agence France Press.

Tanzania gamekeeper
turned poachers

Dar es Salaam, Nov 19.—Tanzania Government has fired 75 game scouts who were alleged to have been involved in big game poaching and smuggling. It was announced today.—Reuters.

Military action against oil
nations deemed unlikely

From Our Correspondent
Stockholm, Nov 19

The possibility of outside military intervention in the oil-rich Middle East cannot be lightly dismissed, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sipri) said today.

The independent institute, in a study titled "Oil and security", acknowledged that many factors militated against military intervention by an outside power such as the United States.

But the situation could change either in a state of general war, or if oil producing countries "endangered the internal order and well-being of importing countries" by instituting upon limiting supplies to levels that leave very basic economic and military needs unfilled.

The institute, which is financed by the Swedish Parliament, said the leaders of some Arab countries had reckoned on the possibility of American military intervention during the oil crisis, "since on numerous occasions they threatened to

blow up their oil installations if threats of military intervention were carried out."

A powerful nation would have little difficulty conquering most Middle East countries, Sipri said, and military control over parts of the Persian Gulf area could probably be achieved within hours or even minutes.

But this would involve the risk of confrontation with other great powers and seriously compromise détente. Formidable problems would arise in securing the occupied areas and oil and military control over the power's citizens and property would become the target of acts of sabotage all over the world.

Sipri said that the prospects of intervention and occupation "seem fairly remote at present because of the risk involved in such operations."

British Red Cross visit

Berlin, Nov 19.—A British Red Cross delegation, headed by its president, Sir Evelyn Stuckburgh, arrived here today

Canadian budget aims at
stimulating industry

From Our Correspondent
Ottawa, Nov 19

Personal income taxes are to be reduced and tax incentives aimed at stimulating production, will be offered to Canadian manufacturers under a budget presented to the House of Commons by Mr John Turner, the Finance Minister.

The budget also provides for the removal of the 12 per cent federal sales tax on construction equipment and a reduction in the tax on building materials. The measures are expected to cost the federal Treasury nearly \$500m (£2,150,000) annually.

The cut in the building materials tax is aimed at stimulating the slumping housing industry. Indications are that housing starts this year will be 25 to 35 per cent below last year's total of 268,000.

Mr Turner said the outlook for Canada's economy is less bright than when he presented his last budget in May. That budget was rejected in

the House of Commons, and the result was a federal election which returned the Liberal Government to office with a majority of seats.

"Output, employment and income will all continue to grow in 1975, but at rates below potential," Mr Turner said. Tax cuts would spur economic growth, projected at 4 to 5 per cent in real terms this year, and "directly or indirectly could also help to moderate inflation," he argued.

The Government hoped to bring inflation to below 10 per cent next year. It has been running at 11 and 12 per cent. To spur business investment and productivity, Mr Turner extended indefinitely a two-year tax write-off of expenditures on new machinery and equipment. At the same time, he increased federal taxes on drink and tobacco, and instituted a special new tax on high energy consumption vehicles.

A corporate surtax of 10 per cent will be imposed for the year ending next April 30.

Iran Air's 'Silk Route'

The 'Homa', mythical bird of ancient Persia, symbolizes the magic of Iran Air.



Fastest to China and on to Japan. As the 'Homa' flies.



The Great Wall of China.



The charm of Japan.

From November 19
Iran Air brings you
the magic of the
Far East.

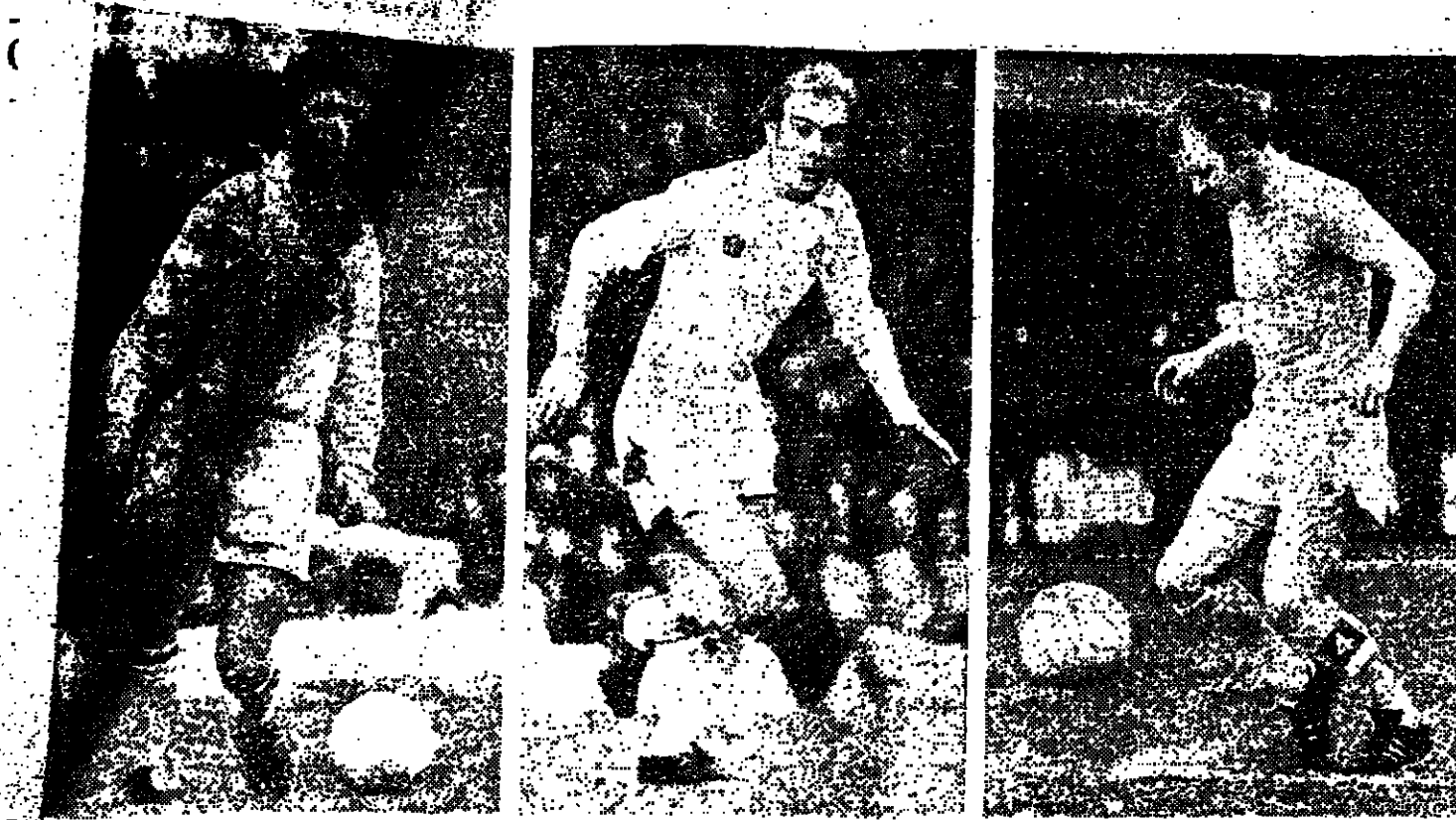
An Iran Air super-fast Boeing leaves Heathrow for Tehran every Saturday and Tuesday to connect with our non-stop flight to China and on to Japan. The original 'Silk Route' was the ancient trade route to the Orient—now fly to Eastern horizons with the 'Homa'. The 'Homa', mythical bird of ancient Persia, can be found on the tail-planes of the whole Iran Air Boeing fleet,

servicing 25 important destinations and a flourishing domestic network. For further details contact your travel agent or Iran Air, 135 New Bond Street, London W.1. Reservations 01-409 0977.



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Football



Club and country in peaceful coexistence. Giles (left), Vorath and Bremner, all of Leeds, captain their countries tonight.

Four countries who should raise their collective cap to Leeds

By Geoffrey Green

Football Correspondent

The European championship takes the stage tonight and the British Isles are fully engaged. England face Portugal at Wembley, Wales, having beaten Hungary and lost to Austria in Vienna, take on Luxembourg at Cardiff; Scotland open their account against Spain at Hampden Park; and the Republic of Ireland recent conquerors of Russia, travel to distant, romantic-sounding Izmir to face Turkey.

Cautious as an eye across this crowded field, one is delighted to raise one's cap to Leeds United and their manager, Jimmy Armfield. Although they are in deep waters at the wrong end of the league championship, there has been no attempt to sidestep their responsibilities to the international scene.

They have, in fact, released 10 of their team to play their part for country when others, in a similar position might have been disposed to put club first with a variety of excuses and withdrawals. Their total offering is Madsley, Cooper and Clarke for England; Harvey, Bremner (captain), McQueen and Jordan for Scotland; Vorath, captain of Wales; and Giles, captain and playmaker of the Republic of Ireland. That is something of which to be proud.

Meanwhile, Don Revie, the former Leeds manager now in charge of England, in choosing his team, has left out four of the players who started the game for him against Czechoslovakia three weeks ago. They are Worthington (Leicester City) and Keegan (Liverpool) from the attack; and Doughton, of Everton, and Hunter, of Leeds, in midfield.

Predictions are always fraught with the dangers of a picked balloon. Since Portugal were recently beaten 3-0 by

Switzerland, the temptation is to write them off in advance without a second thought. Yet every match is different and no one knows this better than Mr. Revie. As he said yesterday: "The Swiss played very well against them last week and I am sure Portugal could play much better than that. As I know from Leeds, little teams can often come out on top. You can never be certain about any football match."

As for José Pedroto, the Portuguese manager, he summed up the future in these words: "It should be the team that played in Switzerland. I must keep faith with my players. But we are going to Wembley to train tonight and my final decision will depend on the condition of the pitch. Conditions could affect the selection of both teams, I feel."

Cannot promise we will attack. We must win the ball first before we can do that. We are a young team with an average age of 23, and England are such a very good side.

The most welcome aspect of the England side is the return of Cooper, of Leeds, after an absence of two years. He is a player against a badly broken leg which at one time threatened to end his career. Regarded in the World Cup of 1970 as one of the finest left backs anywhere, his reappearance to the front rank is the result of endless courage and the belief of Mr. Revie in the young man himself.

Disappointment, however, may yet dog his steps. Cooper will not know until today whether he will be fully fit to take the place given back to him. As Mr. Revie said yesterday: "Terry" was having treatment again at Arsenal this morning and I think he should be fit. But we'll give him a test in the morning and right-thinking person will keep his

fingers crossed for the Leeds man. Certainly his probing, overlapping style down the left flank and the free use of his natural left-foot will be a great asset to England and which has been missing since he fell foul of the fates. Should Cooper fail to get to the starting line, Hughes will be left back with Todd in the back four.

It is good, too, to see that Thomas, the Queen's Park Rangers winger, has been retained. It was his appearance 25 minutes from the end at Wembley last month that suddenly undermined the Czechoslovak defence, turning a 0-0 draw into a 3-0 win. I shall hope to see him running at the Portuguese tonight, bringing perhaps at least a faint echo of the days of Matthews and Finney and the afternoon when that incomparable wing pair helped to destroy the Czechoslovak defence of a century and more ago.

England's forward line that day read: Matthews, Mortensen, Lawton, Manion and Finney. Lawton and Mortensen each scored four goals; Matthews and Finney one apiece. Yet they blended and destroyed tonight it is the duty of the "Champion" to play the match supported by Bell, Brooking and Francis to speak up in a new tactical age.

ENGLAND: R. Clemence (Liverpool); P. Madsen (Leeds United); D. Watson (Sunderland); E. Hughes (Liverpool); T. Cooper (Leeds United); C. Todd (Derby County); T. Brooking (West Ham United); G. Francis (Queen's Park Rangers); C. Bell (Manchester City); D. Thomas (Queen's Park Rangers); M. Cooper (Southampton); A. Clarke (Leeds United).

PORTUGAL (probable): Damas (Sporting Lisbon); Artur (Benfica); Humberto (Benfica); Barreiros (Benfica); Martins (Benfica); Alves (Boavista); Octavio (Vitoria Setubal); Neme (Benfica); Remeu (Vitoria Guimaraes); Oliveira (FC Porto).

SPAIN: Ferraz (Castellón); Benito (Cape); Miguel (Cape); Martinez; Villar; Quin; Plans; Rexach. Referee: E. Lüssemayr (Austria).

SCOTLAND: D. Harvey (Leeds United); J. Irvine (Leeds United); Forsyth (Manchester United); W. Bremner (Leeds United); G. McQueen (Leeds United); R. Burns (Birmingham City); J. Johnston (Leeds United); T. Buchanan (Coventry City).

WALES: J. Davies (Cardiff City); J. Hughes (Cardiff City); J. Jones (Cardiff City); J. Roberts (Cardiff City); J. Thomas (Cardiff City); J. Williams (Cardiff City); J. Young (Cardiff City); J. Zetter (Cardiff City).

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Irish score a point off Turks before kick-off

Izmir, Turkey, Nov. 19.—After beating the Soviet Union, the Republic of Ireland commenced their European championship season against a defensively-minded well-drilled Turkish team here to-morrow.

The Irish appear to have too much talent and experience for the Turks, especially in midfield. But Turkey have caused more than a few upsets in the past and the 85,000-capacity Atatürk Stadium here has been a lucky ground for them. They have won their last four international matches in Izmir.

This group six qualifying match has stirred massive interest and the Irish have skillfully used the publicity in the pre-match psychological war. Every newspaper since the weekend has carried the confident predictions of the Irish captain, Giles, that his team will win easily.

Givens who scored all the goals in the 3-0 defeat of the Russians in the pre-match special attention in the Turkish match plans. The Queens Park Rangers forward said: "I have come to only one thing—score more goals."

By contrast, the Turks have been reticent about their chances after last week's 1-0 defeat of Austria in Istanbul. The Turkish manager, Coskun Ozal, has restricted himself to the brief comment that he was hopeful his side would improve on that dismal display.

The Turks main weaknesses have been in midfield and the defence. The goalkeeper, Yasin, Turkey's player of the year—is perhaps the side's most outstanding member and he has another busy day to-morrow.

TURKEY: Yasin; Alpaskan, Ismail, Ziya, Zekeriyi, Engin, Selim, Mehmet, S. Mehmet, Cemil, Metin.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: P. Roche (Manchester United); J. Giles (Leeds United); J. Jones (Leeds United); J. Roberts (Leeds United); J. Thomas (Leeds United); J. Williams (Leeds United); J. Young (Leeds United); J. Zetter (Leeds United).

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Rugby Union

Ralston and David out of match at Cambridge

Tom David and Christopher Ralston have withdrawn because of injury from M. Steele-Bodger's XV to meet Cambridge University at Cambridge today. David's place at flank forward is taken by the former England captain, Rogers (Bedford), and Ralston is replaced in the second row by Martin (Harlequins). John Spencer, who is injured, is another withdrawal and his replacement is Gibson, the Irish and British Lion centre.

Cambridge, who have been beaten only twice this season, make one change. Moves, the centre injured against London Scottish a fortnight ago, returns in place of Andrew and broke a collar-bone in Saturday's victory over Blackheath.

Oxford University make changes in their pack for the annual match against Major Staley's XV at Trillick Road tomorrow. Kelleher is brought in at tight half prop for the New Zealanders, who reverts to his normal position at blind side wing forward, at the expense of Barry.

Simpson, Coventry's second row forward, returns to the Warwickshire team for the first time this season for next Wednesday's deciding match in the Midlands group against North Midlands at Coventry. Simpson is preferred to Nunnston's John, who has played in the opening three matches.

The interzonals, Duckham and Evans, who were forced to play together since the last season, are also back in the side. Warwickshire are the only unbeaten side in the Midlands group, having scored 12 points and conceded only 11 in their three matches.

Forces and Wilts have been forced to make changes, because of injuries, for their match with Hertfordshire at Wymondham today. The Bourneham full back, Sharp, is replaced by the former player of Wymondham's Hockings, who has an injured ankle, and Brock (Dorchester) comes in for Graves as an injured back.

DORSET AND WILTS (v Hertfordshire): S. Sharp (Bournemouth); V. Gaiger (Bath); N. Burton (Salisbury); C. Evans (Salisbury); R. Maidment (Wimborne); J. Morgan (Salisbury); J. Cannon (Wimborne); R. Knight (Poole); J. Brock (Dorchester); R. G. (Salisbury); M. Gale (Swansea and Warrington); J. Jarrett (Gloucester); A. Morgan (Warwickshire); C. Henry (Bath); N. Barrow (Gloucester).

WARWICKSHIRE (v North Midlands): P. J. Maisey (Coventry); P. R. Preece (Coventry); G. W. Evans (Coventry); D. J. Duckham (Coventry); A. R. Cowman (Coventry); C. Gifford (Coventry); K. E. Fairbrother (Coventry); J. T. Gallagher (Coventry); J. M. Brodbeck (Coventry); D. Simpson (Coventry); T. Conroy (Rugby); R. Pigott (Rugby); M. Malik (Rugby).

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On the 10th day of the month of June 1864

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948 to
1967. MEN ONLY. Limited.
Notice is hereby given, pursuant
to section 248 of the Companies
Act 1948, that a MEETING of the
CREDITORS of the above-named
Company will be held at 3 London
Wall Buildings, London E.C.2 on
Friday, the 28th day of December
1974, at 10.00 o'clock in the Fore-
noon, for the purposes mentioned
in sections 294 and 295 of the said
Act.
Dated this 11th day of November
1974. By Order of the Board,
T. DAVIS,
Secretary.

PARLIAMENT, November 19, 1974

IRA funeral: public commemoration rightly unacceptable

House of Commons

MRS JILL KNIGHT (Birmingham, Edgworth) asked the Home Secretary whether he had received a request from the chief constables concerned in relation to the proposed IRA funeral procession in the Midlands and what was his reply.

MR ROY JENKINS (Birmingham, Stedham) said that he had received such a request.

The Home Secretary said that he had received a request from the chief constables concerned in relation to the proposed IRA funeral procession in the Midlands and what was his reply.

MR JENKINS—The Home Secretary's words have given pleasure to many people here. He is aware of the depth of anger and resentment that IRA spokesmen have been reported as saying that an official funeral march with guard of honour will attend the funeral of a terrorist's body from the Midlands?

If such action were to take place in honouring a would-be murderer of innocent British people it would be blatantly provocative and likely to cause a severe breach of the peace.

British people will not stand any longer for their avowed enemies demonstrating and marching freely in British streets.

MR JENKINS—I do not think my remarks should, or were intended to, give pleasure to anyone. The Home Secretary's remarks were covered in my original answer.

SIR BERNARD BRAINE (South-East Essex, C)—This question goes deeper, is he aware of the growing number of people in this country who are openly declaring war on this country and are carrying out a programme of bombings and killings of innocent civilians should continue to be a legal organisation here, although it is illegal in the Republic of Ireland. Is not the time coming for Mr Jenkins to address himself to the need to rationalise the situation?

MR JENKINS—The time is not coming, it has come. I have addressed myself to this ever since I have been in office. I have so far, on the best advice available to me, been able to keep the IRA out of the country and the security forces have been able to keep it out.

LORD HARRIS of Greenwich, Minister of State, Home Office, moved the second reading of the Safety of Sports Grounds Bill, said it implemented Lord Wheatley's report on safety at sports grounds, after the disaster at Ibrox Park in January, 1971.

The grounds to be dealt with first were international grounds, English first and second division club grounds, and then the third division club grounds—a total of 64.

Grounds defined by Lord Wheatley at categories two and three would be dealt with later as the need arose. The full system of control would not apply to category four clubs—those grounds with accommodation for fewer than 10,000 spectators. Safety at those grounds would be controlled by the club concerned, in consultation with local authorities.

While no grants or loans from public funds would be made to clubs, the Government had been considering whether there were other ways in which help might be given. Any other view would be inappropriate in the present public expenditure climate. The financial difficulties of clubs were kept fully in mind in preparing the Bill.

There would be a right of appeal to the Home Secretary against any requirements of the Bill which were thought to be unreasonable. The question of cost would be taken into account in considering the Bill.

The Government (he said) have been asked to consider the Bill.

Improvement of safety at reservoirs

LADY BIRK, Under Secretary, Department of the Environment, moving the second reading of the Reservoirs Bill, said it was the same Bill which was introduced last session, and which fell at the dissolution of Parliament. It re-enacted and strengthened the Reservoirs (Safety Provisions) Act, 1930. It made effective provision for the safety of reservoirs and the protection of the public and their property.

The Bill created enforcement powers to be exercised by local authorities. The enforcement authorities would ensure that reservoir undertakers complied with the requirements of the Bill and they possessed reserve powers to act in cases of emergency.

Appointments of qualified civil engineers would be for a fixed term of five years instead of for life. This would enable ministers to review regularly the fitness of candidates for re-appointment in consultation with the committee of the institution.

The Bill (she said) provides a necessary and efficient legislative framework within which those who were best fitted to decide on technical matters could operate.

At the same time, no barriers would be placed in the way of sensible technological innovation.

LADY YOUNG (C), for the Opposition, said they supported the principle of the Bill and welcomed it.

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The Government (he said) have been asked to consider the Bill.

Decisive break with direct grant schools may be in September 1976

MR MARKS (Manchester, Gorton, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Education and Science to take steps in the next year to end the direct grant schools system and to extend comprehensive secondary education.

MR PRENTICE (Newham, North-East, Lab) said that the Government's determination to develop a fully comprehensive system of secondary education. If the reply by local education authorities to the circular does not indicate that sufficiently rapid progress is being made, I shall consider what further steps will be needed.

MR MARKS—Two of the pledges on which we won the election were to end the 11-plus and to stop the local education authorities from stopping the system of direct grant schools. There will be a transitional period and consultation with local authorities and the direct grant schools. So should we not

get on with this as quickly as possible?

MR PRENTICE—Yes. On the final part, in phasing out direct grants we would not alter the position of pupils in the schools at the time when the change is made. Also, on the other part, at this point in time, the selection procedures already under way in relation to September, 1975.

Therefore, the earliest point at which one would make a decisive break with the direct grant system would be in September, 1976. This gives me some months for further thought and consultation and I am proceeding with this.

MR LAMONT (Kingston upon Thames, C)—Since he has singled out my constituency for criticism, I will ensure that any enforced reorganisation takes place against the background of a very high standard. I am particularly anxious to know the purpose of the schools in my constituency are of the grammar schools and it would be a tragedy if they were forced to disappear through doctrinaire views.

MR PRENTICE—Large numbers of local education authorities have reorganised on a comprehensive

basis without any Government making special allocations of money for the purpose. They are good schools and have become better in a comprehensive set-up.

I hope wider councils will prevail on the London Borough of Kingston upon Thames.

MR CHRISTOPHER PRICE (Lewisham, West, Lab)—He has read the recent leading article in the *Times Educational Supplement*, which said for the first time that the direct grant schools should be phased out. I am sure that the Government will accept Government policy?

The delay in this announcement indicated today will only cause uncertainty, and the quicker he can state the Government's policy, the better. If he likes, the less uncertainty there will be over the education system in all local education authorities.

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basis without any Government making special allocations of money for the purpose. They are good schools and have become better in a comprehensive set-up.

I hope wider councils will prevail on the London Borough of Kingston upon Thames.

MR CHRISTOPHER PRICE (Lewisham, West, Lab)—He has read the recent leading article in the *Times Educational Supplement*, which said for the first time that the direct grant schools should be phased out. I am sure that the Government will accept Government policy?

The delay in this announcement indicated today will only cause uncertainty, and the quicker he can state the Government's policy, the better. If he likes, the less uncertainty there will be over the education system in all local education authorities.

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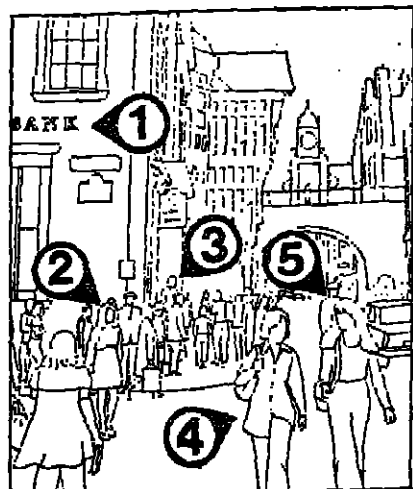
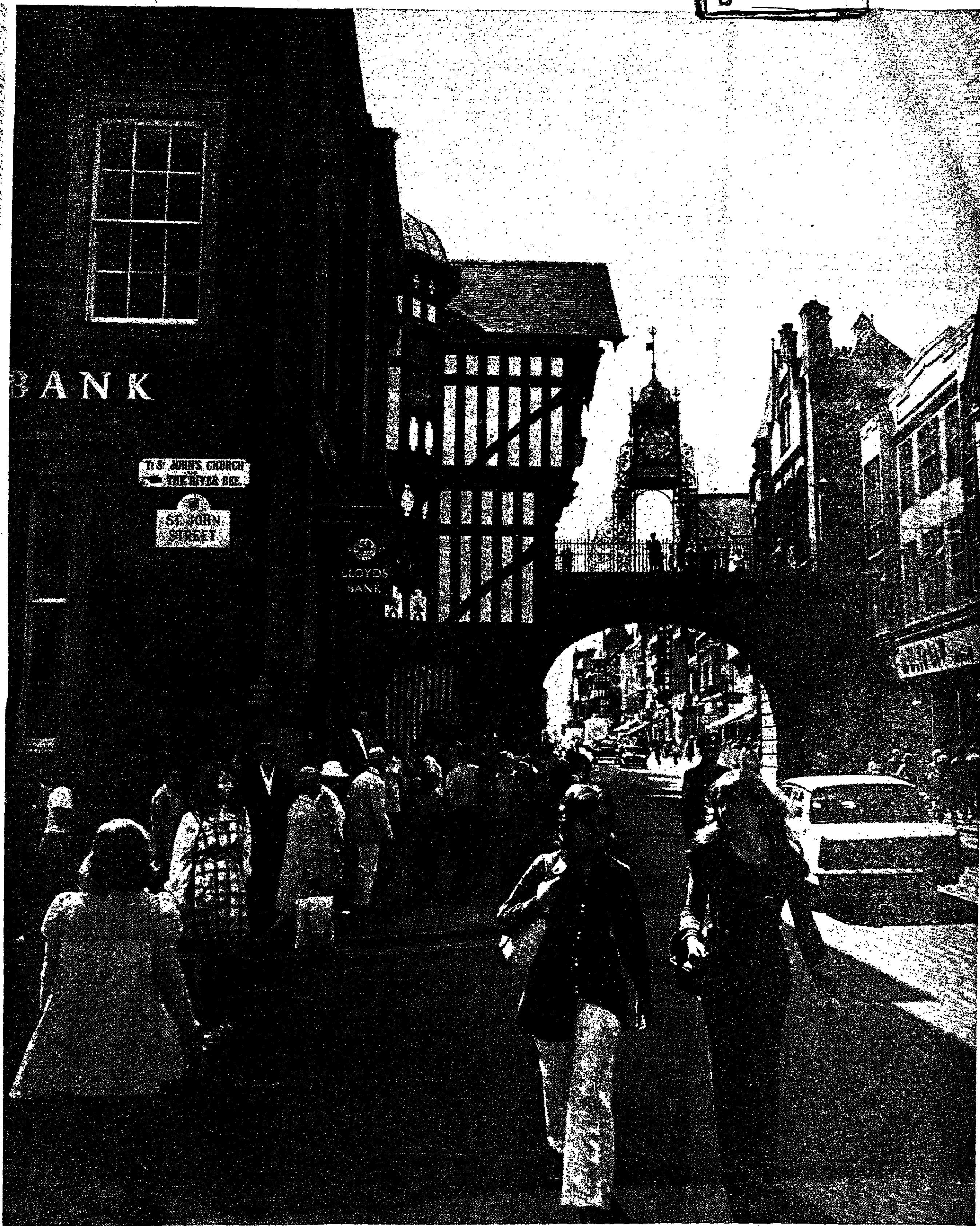
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Therefore, the earliest point at which one would make a decisive break with the direct grant system would be in September, 1976. This gives me some months for further thought and consultation and I am proceeding with this.

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هكذا من الأصل



Chester, Cheshire. Each year, more and more visitors come to see this historic city's unique attractions... such as the Eastgate, right next to Lloyds Bank (1).

Marjorie Cox (2) has had an account at Lloyds for over 4 years. 'I banked elsewhere before,' she says, 'but needed a bank with more services. Lloyds is so useful, with standing orders to pay regular bills promptly, and things like the new Cashpoint machine to get cash quickly.'

Prompt arrangement of a loan helped Mr Dudley Blackbourn (3) to get

his wholesale stationery firm off to a successful start. 'Lloyds agreed the loan within 24 hours. Now, after just over a year of busy trading, I'm already looking towards expansion.'

Just visiting her parents' home in Chester is Lynda Warmington (4), who works at Shipston-on-Stour, and has facilities to draw cash at Lloyds Bank there. 'Whichever Lloyds branch I use, I always find the same friendly, efficient service.'

Lloyds has helped Corporal Richard

Shaw (5) to buy a new house. He tells us: 'When I needed a £6,000 bridging loan for a few weeks, Lloyds came to the rescue.'

Manager of the Lloyds branch in Chester is Mr Frank Bare. 'Although we're a large branch, we try to ensure that we give each customer individual attention.'

Wherever you are in England or Wales, you're never far from the friendly help of Lloyds Bank.



Lloyds Bank

One area of policy which is best left to housewives

The referendum in British political experience is rather like James Stewart's gun in the film *Destiny Rides Again*. It has been frequently aimed by one party against another but never actually fired. Between 1909 and 1911, for instance, the beleaguered aristocrats in the House of Lords called interminably for either referenda or rhinoceroses (which, in their eyes, amounted to roughly the same thing) to rid the nation of those two incorrigible levelers, Lloyd George and Winston Churchill.

Even the great Dicey, whose ghost walked through the Commons during the debates on the European Communities Bill and who first enunciated the principle that no parliament can bind its successor, threw aside his dignity and flourished the deadly weapon in the course of early arguments about Ireland. The idea of a referendum was a major part of the Home Rule that troubled some country gentlemen.

Enthusiasm for referenda among the upper classes, for obvious reasons, diminished as the electorate expanded; and even though Australia's imitation ruling class disposed of Socialism-inspired amendments to the Commonwealth constitution in 1911, 1913 and 1919 by allowing the sovereign people to vote them down, the referendum was regarded for more than three decades as a quaint old Swiss custom, something like yodeling.

Even the left did not like it. Clifford Sharp, the first editor of the *New Statesman*, wrote a Fabian pamphlet in the 1920s in which he pointed out that "certain propositions can never hope to be popular until they have been accomplished facts". Such remained the conventional wisdom until 1945, when Winston Churchill suggested that a referendum should decide whether the Parliament elected in 1935 should carry on to the end of the war against Japan.

But Attlee would not have it. The referendum, he said, was an explosion in his otherwise calm career. The referendum, he said, was an "alien device" used and loved by such villains as Hitler and Mussolini; and that description was enough to ram the weapon back firmly into its holster for another 20 years.

Then came the Common Market and the non-lethal use of the "alien device" by friendly, democratic aliens. Changes in written constitutions were required in three of the new applicants for membership and the people of Ireland and Denmark gave their governments the authority to make them. Norway, which had separated itself from Sweden in 1905 by a simple vote in its Parliament, kept itself out of the Common Market by a referendum. Now this country, voted into the Common Market by a tiny majority on the most important clause of the relevant Bill, is to have the chance to vote itself out again, in Norwegian style. The referendum has changed holsters, from right to left.

The House of Commons library file on referenda (placed immediately before that on refuse collection, if you

are interested in the fashionable study of significant coincidences) contains many well argued assaults on the "alien device", most of them written either by my honourable friend, Mr John Mackintosh, or my fellow worker, Mr David Wood. Neither convinces me that we should not have a referendum.

It is, oddly enough, the veteran European unioner, Mr Jean Rey who persuades me that we must. During a visit in July, he said openly and bluntly what most British Marketers only whisper and hint. "A referendum on this matter would consist of consulting people who don't know the problems instead of consulting people who know them", he said. "The policy of this great country", he added, "should not be left to housewives."

He was, of course, thinking more of the referendum his country has had than the referendum this country is to have; and his remarks, in a French context, are not so outrageous as they sound. De Gaulle, knowing quite well that voters in a French referendum invariably vote on more issues than the single one on the ballot papers, used the device to increase his own authority and diminish that of the National Assembly. That is why he resigned after his last effort, which resulted in a far from overwhelming negative vote on a seemingly minor constitutional change. Pompidou aped his former master. Anyone who believes that his referendum was really about whether we were fit to join the French in their Common Market would believe anything.

So what are the other issues on which our own housewives will vote? The first—and probably only—one will be their own standard of living and the ability of the government to maintain and raise it. This, the only issue at every previous general election, cannot fail to be the main issue in our first referendum.

All of which places Mr Heath in a difficult position. A vote to keep Britain in the Community will be a vote of confidence in the Government. His ruling passion, therefore, which is to keep Britain in the Community, will declare war on his imperative need to demonstrate to his own followers that he can demolish public confidence in Mr Wilson's government. Success as Leader of the Opposition, in short, could bring failure to our most dedicated Marketeer.

The situation will be familiar to all whose reading does not consist wholly of White Papers and Parliamentary Bills. Mr Joseph Heller presented the dilemma in fiction long before it confronted Mr Heath in fact. You could get out of the United States Air Force, it emerged from his novel, only by pretending to be insane. But if you wanted to get out, that in itself was enough to prove you sane and keep you in. Mr Heath is trapped, like so many of us, when you think about it, in *Catch 22*. Meanwhile, in another part of Westminster, the Erel Knives of British politics sits in the Cabinet room, preparing his next death-defying powered leap. The author is Labour MP for Ilkeston.

One has to go back several centuries to find a comparison between Westminster and the European Parliament, to the days when the English Parliament was struggling to assert its rights against the power of the Crown. We take it for granted now that parliamentary battles are fought between the different members of a parliament. But the battles which stir the European Parliament today are those between it and the other institutions of the EEC.

At Strasbourg last week there was less passion in the debate on sugar policy than in the preceding discussion about whether the debate should be held at all, since the Parliament had been affronted by the Council of Ministers apparently taking their decisions in advance. What particularly pleased members in this session at Strasbourg was their achievement in going through the whole of the Community budget for next year and making amendments within the prescribed limits. The actual changes meant less to

them than their collective capacity to exercise this new responsibility.

This is not an example of the vanity of parliamentarians. It is an acknowledgement of political reality. The European Parliament today is a parliament of potential but not of power. Its members know that on any particular issue they are unlikely to be able to exercise more than an uncertain influence. For the most part a vote at the European Parliament is a political gesture not a decision. That is why its members are frustrated by their present condition, as they will explain without hesitation. They know that just as the English Parliament had to wrest from the monarch the right to make policy before its deliberations could be decisive, so now their main concern is to win additional powers from the Council of Ministers. Unless they can win that war, battles between themselves on particular issues of policy must be largely political theatre.

In fighting that war the Parliament is not without weapons. It now has the power to amend the Community budget within strict limits, and there are plans to extend those limits further, but that will require ratification by all the national parliaments. It has the power to dismiss the Commission, which would cause sufficient stir, even if the Parliament's struggle is with the Council of Ministers rather than the Commission. The difficulty is that in order to show its strength the Parliament would have to disrupt the operations of the Community at a particularly delicate time in its history. That would require both agreement on the right issue and nerve.

There is no shortage of issues. First of all, there is the question of direct elections which will be considered again by the Parliament at its December session. If the Council refuses to accept a timetable for direct elections by 1980, then parliamentary muscles could be flexed. The only trouble about that is that the members are

not in fact agreed on the urgency of direct elections. Some feel that if they came too quickly the electorate would not turn out to vote and politicians of calibre would not stand. Others, while favouring direct elections as soon as possible, nonetheless believe that this is a secondary issue compared with the powers of the Parliament.

Another possible issue is that of a single home for the European Parliament, which is likely to be debated in February or March. On the face of it, it would seem absurd for an institution which wastes enough time already to waste even more by holding some of its meetings in Strasbourg and some in Luxembourg. But that is in general worse for the officials than for the parliamentarians on the geographical periphery of the Community than for those near the centre. This question may therefore not cause the necessary collective sense of indignation.

The most logical issue for the Parliament to make its stand on

would be proposals for the extension of its own powers over Community legislation, which are expected to come up late next year. That is after all the struggle is about. It is the question that draws most members of the Parliament most closely together. But this is not a matter of logic alone: it is also one of nerve.

At the moment the European Parliament is caught in a vicious circle. Because it does not have the powers to provide scope for parliamentarians in the first rank it finds difficulty in attracting parliamentarians of the calibre to win those powers. Service in its ranks is a gruelling duty. It consumes so much time that it is extremely hard to pursue an effective political career in a national parliament at the same time. There are the plenary sessions roughly once a month. There are the frequent committee meetings, and there is the apparently interminable production of paper. For the British members there is an extra burden so long as the Labour Party is not represented.

Despite this there are a number of members whose pattern can already be discerned in which the long ambition at home is still at least blocked, and the will be younger hopefuls a short term of duty in experience. That is not a combination for an political revolt. The European Parliament would improve chances of winning its own if it could simplify its procedures. So long as the service there is so gruelling most members feel that remain for long they will throw away ambition and then it will be difficult to enough men and women the capacity to sustain challenge to the Community. Yet members are aware that the future Parliament depends on the come of that contest.

Geoffrey!

Bernard Levin

As a set piece of theatre there has been little to equal this

To Covent Garden for Boris Godunov. This season marks the 25th anniversary of Boris Christoff's debut in the part, and I had an uneasy feeling, listening to him, that he has weathered the intervening years rather better than I have. But the air was full of rumours that there is shortly to be a new production of the opera at Covent Garden, and if it is not too late I want to appeal to the authorities there to change their minds about it.

I am not usually to be found opposing the re-production of operas that have not been done afresh for a quarter of a century; several times towards the end of the old Tosca I contemplated rising in my place and addressing the audience at considerable length on its ineptitudes, and as for the *Bohème*, the sets for which I am not making this up—were, right up to 1970, the ones used for the production of 1899, and from their appearance might well have been made from those built for the Gala staged by King Solomon at the coronation of the Queen of Sheba. I was determined, if they should ever be dragged out again, to fire flaming arrows at them from my stall. But it is not only nostalgia that would make me regret the final passing of the old Boris, though certainly the nostalgia, though flowing freely the other night. The production was done first by Peter Brook, during his brief and stormy period as Artistic Director, and contained some memorable effects, many of which have unhappily vanished over the years. (I recall, in the Polish act, a magnificent garden swing for Marina, hanging from a support invisible in the flies, and a very striking shadow-play of the dancers across the lighted windows during the monologue; also, for Boris's hallucination scene, a series of sliding doors that closed ominously behind him, one by one, as he staggered downstage in his torment.)

Nor do I object to the re-staging of Boris merely because there are works which demand a new turn far more urgently, though by Melpomene, Terpsichore and even Apollo, there certainly are; *Madam Butterfly* is a wretched enough opera, goodness knows, but the present production, the sets of which look as if they were run up for eighteenth-century and even so deserve reporting to the Price Commission as a scandalous case of over-charging, only makes it seem more wretched than it is. No; the reason for retaining the present Boris is simply that the sets and costumes devised for it by George Wakhevitch constitute an artistic and dramatic masterpiece; the only designs I have seen to compare with them were those by Rex Whistler for the old *Fidelio*, which were also lost for ever when it was newly done for (and indeed by) Otto Klemperer. I will go further: even if there is to be a new production of Boris, the destruction of the old sets and costumes would be an artistic crime akin to the destruction of so many fine buildings, and I urge interested parties (Mander and Mitchinson, for instance) to examine seriously and urgently whether the law could be used to obtain a preservation order on them.

The basic themes of the sets are icon-like murals, in Pina's monastery and Boris's palace, for instance, and beautiful romantic tracery for the Polish court; the inn (from which I remember, in the dreadful old English version, the immortal couplet "I have caught a duck, Oh what a stroke of luck") is simpler and the outdoor scenes consist of little but a tree and a bare, bleak stage. But the costumes throughout really do make one catch the breath, so sumptuous are they; the Coronation scene is ablaze with fur and colour and jewels, and even the crowd of peasants in the 50th punter search and green of the soldiers' uniforms.

Boris, of course, is a horse opera in the literal sense; at least, the mounted entry of the Pretender is as traditional as is the habit of Edgar, in *Lucia*, of throwing his cloak on the floor before the sexton (Shaw

was complaining about this in the 1880s, and blow me if they weren't still doing it when I last saw the thing at Covent Garden), or that of the tenor in *Troisvire* deliberately ending *Di quella pira* on a wrong note (or as Shaw, again, put it, reviewing the tenor, "finishing the aria with a high C capable of making a stranded man-of-war recoil off a reef into mid-ocean"), and on this occasion I think we came closer than ever before to my dream of seeing the beast curvet gently over the orchestra-pit and gallop to the aisle with the false Dmitri screaming for help. Better still, of course, would be to see the horse curvet gently not quite over the orchestra-pit.

"Excuse me, there is a horse stuck in your tuba." So there is. I wondered why it would play nothing but the Posthorn Gallop."

The trouble is that for Boris, where the horse has to be taken seriously (unlike the one in *Götterdämmerung*), they tend to use a high-spirited police animal, and these, though of course they are very well trained, are not trained to have an inexperienced rider sitting on their backs singing operatic arias in Russian. Producers always provide the Boris horse with a groom, topped up like one of the chorus, to lead it on and off the stage—in cases like this, emergency I have seen him give it a canter. But either the producer this time was being ever so artistic, or the horse-controller was on strike, for after leading it on by the bridle, and getting it turned round facing the audience, he let go and stepped back, leaving the groom to follow him, leaving the reins in the hands of a jockey going round Tattenham Corner nine lengths ahead of the field with thousands of pounds depending on him coming in last. Even the horse, incidentally, was handsomely caparisoned in this Boris; must we really lose it for ever? As Groucho might have said, if it's Godunov for Boris, it's Godunov for me.

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Is this the civil war everyone feared in Ulster?

A man speaking in a thick Ulster accent recently telephoned the Belfast office of the Samaritans in the early hours to claim responsibility for the brutal murder of Paul Armstrong, a young Catholic seaman, whose bloodstained body was found dumped unceremoniously on the floor of a derelict bakery.

Slowly and deliberately, the anonymous caller said that the killing was retaliation taken by the Ulster Protestant Action Group for recent bomb explosions. He warned that similar acts of sectarian revenge would accompany further IRA violence and rang off with the traditional "loyalist" battlecry "No surrender".

In any other European city, details of the ritual shooting of a hooded teenager would still be fresh in people's minds a week later. But in the present frightened and fatalistic atmosphere of Belfast, the derelict sailor is only remembered as a statistic used to demonstrate the disturbing new upward spiral of sectarian killing.

Since the upsurge began late in September, following the blooded murder of two leading members of the judiciary by the Provisionals, there have been over 25 sectarian assassinations and countless near misses. The majority of the victims have been Catholic civilians with no connexion with either wing of the IRA, although there are signs that a Provisional backlash against the Protestants is now under way.

The killings are sinister and graphic evidence of the simmering discontent among militant loyalists, increasingly disillusioned by the political stance adopted by their two main paramilitary bodies, the Ulster Defence Association and the Ulster Volunteer Force after their respective ceasefires.

Worried British officials regard the sectarian campaign as one of the most dangerous tactics employed in the Ulster crisis. As well as encouraging the ghetto mentality, it also has the immediate effect of bolstering support for the Provisional IRA, which is able to present itself in its most popular role as the heroic defender of unarmed Catholic citizens.

'An indication of brutality used in the name of discipline was provided recently when a man was "kneecapped" by electric drill'

In recent weeks, there has been increasing evidence that control inside certain of the loyalist groups has passed back to the hardline who are determined at any cost to wage a ruthless tribal campaign against the Catholics. This bitter power struggle has been reflected in a number of bizarre underground leaflets which spell out in uncompromising detail the names of UDA and UVF men claimed to be behind the killings.

Within the paramilitary groups an intense, and so far unsuccessful, hunt has been going on to uncover the authors. Security experts believe that the infamous paramilitary "Ripper Rooms" (methamphetamine centres) have been used to conduct in-depth interrogations of those suspected. An indication of the brutality which can be used in the name of internal discipline was provided recently when a man from the Shankill Road was "kneecapped" with a Black & Decker electric drill. In spite of increased activity by the Army's undercover agents in various Protestant strongholds, no hard evidence has yet been provided about the size or command structure of

the breakaway UPAG, assumed that it is little more than a convenient front for militant "loyalists" to responsibility for the killing and draw attention away from legal bodies like the UVF.

As with the previous situation campaign before 1972, a much higher proportion of the victims are Catholic than they are usually selected because Belfast's rigid geography guarantees religion of a civilian is certain, closely defined. On other occasions, the will be "fingered" in his movements closely and his murder often by various degrees of p and mental torture.

Close analysis of the wave of killings shows that, before the mobile assass squad usually number three men, only one of whom is armed. They are then briefed in advance and times carry the name of a tor in case they are headed. One senior Army explained: "Even if we go to pick these people up, rarely get much out of because they are too scared of their own people to admit who gave them orders."

Medical experts who studied the assassin phenomenon in Belfast size that it would be far easier to find the majority of killers simply as viciously disturbed psychics. Often those few who are able for close observation found to be psychopaths normal, portraying the kind of attitude towards sectarian killing as would be expected of any soldier in a military situation.

Unhappily, that is the attitude adopted by a great number of ordinary men women in Ulster. As the tor dead, wounded and bereaved mounts daily and even children become regular targets, it is more difficult to find anyone who is not convinced that the much-heralded civil war in fact already begun.

Christopher Wal

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ROYAL TRUST



The Times Diary

Running an eye over the form

not bet completely blind, calling as they do on the services of a band of amateur touts, the directors and members of their Crookfords and Curzon House clubs. These gentlemen frequently find their social position crossing those of the contestants and are thus expertly placed to pass on a few hot tips.

Clearly you are never going to get a decent price about one of the conventional western (or white Commonwealth) beauties and the 50p punter search and crossing those of the contestants and are thus expertly placed to pass on a few hot tips.

Of shorter, but sexier, build we have Colombia's representative, surly and confident with a well-rounded rear and unlimited stamina on the dance floor. The admiration she attracts in hip-swinging actions is quite nonsense of her 50-1 quote from the major bookies. Miss India (top price 33-1) is another lady of robust constitution, if her penchant for backless sun tops in cold, rainswept London is anything to go by. On the other hand she could well be down with pneumonia come the big night, and there is no money back on non-starters.

Admirers of the working woman have a wide range of professions to choose from: Miss Israel, a dab hand at PT instruction, Miss Africa South, a teacher of mentally retarded

children and a pert, ruby-lipped Maltese with the unlikely task of supervising in a factory making babies' knickers.

On the other hand, neither Miss Canada nor Miss Barbados need to work. The latter is already spoken for to a British socialite, and the former is wedded only to her furs. Daddy is a big noise who keeps his back home in Leamington "tomato capital of Canada" and she has a sizeable collection of rare American opossum, lynx, mink and raccoon to prove it. He has a sizeable collection of rare American opossum, lynx, mink and raccoon to prove it.

Like the patriotic Scandinavian who had £1,500 on the four Nordic entrants right at the beginning, you could take the easy road and plump for Miss UK—Helen from Cardiff—but for the more adventurous we would like to suggest three against the field, whose prices, and credentials, should cater for a variety of tastes.

First, Miss France (who has surprisingly driven a 12s to 25s with Hills) a fetching Tahitian of French parentage, neatly combining a familiar Western label with a touch of Eastern promise. Second, the dusky Miss Africa South, a thoroughbred with a neat figure and a lot of class, who may go down better, politically, than her white compatriot. Avoiding Ladbrokes, who rather fancy her chances, she's offered at 40-1 on the open market.

Finally, Miss Guam. Do not be put off by Coral's 50-1 quote, it refers to the obscurity of her country not her face. If big money eyes, she's length measure of her and the added bonus of perfect, if American, English count for anything she will have a furlong in hand. Our money is already down.

And I suppose Wilson will say it won't affect the five pounds in your pockets



Failed again

The Open University's systems group held their "systems failures workshop" at City University yesterday. The programme provoked many nervous smiles and weary jokes as a succession of speakers took turns to describe their failures in everything from electronic components to soaking pit scheduling systems. The object was to find out whether anything can be done to prevent or avoid such disasters.

One of the first systems failures which the group discovered was that the window of the conference room had failed to close, with the result that something close to an arctic breeze wafted through the chamber throughout the discussions. Nobody offered to analyse the situation or proffered a solution. A man from Mullards said that even if all the components parts of a transistor were working perfectly, the transistor

itself could still fail. A man from the Civil Aviation Authority talked at length about call-sign confusion, which, alarming to tell, pilots confuse call-signs meant for each other and misinterpret the air traffic controller. Hair-raising stuff, but the speaker made it sound reassuringly as though it happened all the time.

In the afternoon they went on to the National Health Service and finished with "an examination of some of the social preconditions associated with disasters. Barry Turner of Exeter University said that a starting point for failure is the failure to deal with an 'ill-structured' (complex) problem because 'attempts to concentrate on a 'well-structured' (simple) problem also at hand. One brave gentleman, a former chief engineer of the National Coal Board, said that perhaps designers were to blame: they should be made to ensure that what they designed really did what they intended it to do. No one had any ready answer to the problem of avoiding disaster.

Since referring, when writing about the grave of Thomas Hancock, the inventor of vulcanized rubber, to *Dunlop, the American*, I have had a flood of learned letters about *Dunlop's Scottish antecedents, his pioneering practice in Northern Ireland, his work on the pneumatic tyre, and the history of rubber technology in general. Thanks very much, indeed, to Mr. Hancock's better-remembered transatlantic rival was Charles Goodyear: I confused tyre companies.*

More Powell

If one is to believe Anthony Powell, novelists have no imagination, merely putting into their works things that happened to them and including their friends, thinly disguised. Powell yesterday received the W. Smith £1,000 literary prize for *Temporary Kings*, the 11th

volume in his sequence, *A Day to the Music of Time*. For final volume, which he intends delivering to Heinemann in public before Christmas, had long ago thought of including a chapter on the presentation of a very substantial literary prize. It was embarrassing, he said, that he had received such a prize. The set might be thought in very high taste.

Leading

Brian Faulkner, head of the Unionist Party of Northern Ireland, flew to London yesterday to talk at the church of St Lawrence Jewry on the subject of "Leadership—What can be expected from those in authority?" Faulkner's departure from Belfast was duly noted in Dublin's newspapers, and one of the first to talk to London Jews.

Faulkner said that leaders must lead and must lead morally and convincingly. "The growth in cynicism about politics in general can be linked to widespread feeling of resentment by the public against what they take to be attempts by the politicians to talk down to them."

On morals: "What the public is entitled to above all of these in authority is that they should not shy away from questions of right and wrong." He suggested that the decline of moral authority had led to a loss of purpose and lack of confidence, and to decline in the rule of law.

And so, the IRA: "Victory against the IRA will never be achieved in terms of capturing the last member—it can only be achieved when those in authority convince the IRA that in the battle of wills the Government is not going to give in... or otherwise seek to wobble on its moral obligations."

The last of the present series of Tuesday lunchtime talks at St Lawrence Jewry will be held next week when Enoch Powell will explain what he means by God save the Queen.

PHS



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NOT MUCH OF A GENERAL STRIKE

one-day general strike in place yesterday does not appear to have been any more spectacularly successful than such demonstrations usually are. As usual, participation was lower in private than in the public sector and public transport was halted but not actually halted, usual, too, the most effective disruption was that caused by power cuts, where a few well-organised electrical engineers make it impossible for thousands of others to work other than they wish to or not.

Even the atmosphere of the few weeks, M Chirac and Government are entitled to at this as something approaching a success. M Mitterrand's win of a new May 1968 have so far been borne out. Of these they may yet be—the 1957-68 was marked by a number of one-day general strikes quite as unimpressive as yesterday's, which was one reason the union leaders themselves were as surprised as anybody when May 1968 happened. The present economic atmosphere, with rapidly rising employment and many firms financial difficulties, hardly seems to lend itself to another

such outburst of spontaneous strikes. But the relative passivity of workers in the private sector will not make it any easier for the Government to settle the serious strikes it is faced with in the public sector, the most important being those of the postmen and refuse collectors. There is little evidence to support the Government's repeated assertions that these strikes are politically motivated. The postmen indeed are a very good example of a category with sound economic reasons for going on strike: they are notoriously badly paid, enjoy a good deal of public sympathy, and have shown during the past few weeks that they can cause very great inconvenience. As a number of French commentators—many of them broadly sympathetic to the Government—have pointed out, it is the Government itself which has politicized this strike, both by its accusations of Communist interference and by its heavy-handed use of police to "protect the right to work" in the sorting offices.

At first sight this behaviour appears merely clumsy, but it probably contains an element of

calculation. The Government may well have reckoned that a political showdown with the unions was inevitable some time this winter, and that it was best to have it sooner rather than later, before the glamour of novelty surrounding President Giscard d'Estaing had completely worn off.

Such a political strategy would fit with an economic strategy which has been hinted at but not made explicit. The Government has so far avoided adopting anything which would be recognized as an incomes policy on this side of the channel. It remains in theory committed to full employment, but its refusal to relax credit restrictions and its sponsorship of an agreement providing for much increased redundancy pay suggest some willingness to accept a higher level of unemployment as a weapon in the battle against inflation. To be effective, this obviously must be combined with firm resistance to inflationary wage claims in the public sector and with an appeal to the collective self-interest of the working class over the heads of the highly politicized but numerically weak trade unions.

COMPLEX, UNPREDICTABLE BUT VERY LARGE

art from its breathtaking complexity, the Oil Taxation Bill, published yesterday, contains few surprises. No one in Whitehall is doing any estimates as to what it represents "a very large revenue" for the Exchequer in posing a separate offshore oil tax, independent of corporation tax. North Sea companies, upon whom so much now depends for future economic security, mainly in ignorance of the rates they will pay.

No one questions the Government's right to introduce some new tax on the profits of oil companies. The wellhead royalty arrangements made for offshore oil in the days before North Sea oil was discovered were not wholly satisfactory. It remains to be seen whether the Bill's provisions on transfer pricing, capital offsets and the rest will prove to strike a fair balance between the State's "take" and return to the oil companies for their risk investments. It is vital that there should remain sufficient incentive to maintain present North Sea activity. The Government hopes that there will be no disruption to the North Sea programme. Any delay could be serious, when our historically high overseas borrowings are, in effect, secured against resources still below the sea. It is a risky time to introduce special tax regime—an impost on the elements of production, venue, and excess profits taxes,

and one paid before and in addition to corporation tax. With the threat of direct Government participation in production companies, the original planning of the industry is bound to need basic revision.

Since the Treasury is not announcing the actual rate of tax and intends to apply it retrospectively from November 13 (to catch the first North Sea supplies), the necessary corporate reappraisal of offshore programmes cannot be an easy task.

North Sea operators are as vulnerable to inflation as the rest of industry and, even if the value of their oil is still rising, the sums required to finance both exploration and development are of stupendous size. An appropriate return in profits must have regard to the risks being taken. In addition, the total effect of all the various different aspects of Government policy for North Sea oil needs to be kept constantly in mind. Companies are finding that the Government's left and right hands are somewhat ill-coordinated.

The first reaction of the companies is bound to be nervous. For a start, the tax is to be paid six months, providing little room for credit, and complicating the financing of production. The decision not to allow interest charges against tax seems to discriminate against the most capital intensive fields. A single rate of tax may discourage work

on smaller oil fields and its application on a field-by-field basis will be disliked by companies who treat their offshore operations as a single on-going business. Worries exist about future gas finds, where there is a State monopoly buyer paying prices now out of line with market values.

North Sea investors, especially American, cannot be said to be pleased with the Government's proposals. Ministers are making it clear that, while they will listen to representations, they cannot be swayed on the fundamental elements of the new tax regime. That is perhaps inevitable. Yet our oil resources are now so crucial that any firm evidence of a subsequent slow down in discovery and exploitation must be promptly heeded and these proposed arrangements amended.

The Government has already misjudged, earlier this year, the impact of taxation on manufacturing investment at large. That totals around £1,900m a year. It is likely that Britain needs to find £10,000m in the next decade just for work in Scottish waters, which requires sustaining oil industry confidence. What cannot be disputed in Labour's rush to impose a complex tax is that previous expectations of a 12,900 million tons of oil reserves, with more to come. Tax arrangements must not be allowed to interfere with their successful exploitation.

THE PRIVATE CONSEQUENCES OF MRS CASTLE

one sense new hospitals are ways good news, but in another opening on Tuesday of the British United Provident Association's first hospital of its own an occasion for mixed feelings. With the new Wellington Hospital, which opened in April, it marks a significant step towards separation of private and public medicine in Britain. Both objects, of course, were in hand before the return of a Labour Government and the demonstrations by hospital staff against private beds in NHS hospitals made the issue an inflamed one. The separation that it is now public policy to make complete as been approaching by gradual stages for many years. But the relationship under threat is one which has been on balance beneficial to both sides, and could have been more so.

Long before Mrs Castle became secretary of State, demand for private medical treatment had far outstripped the limited provision made for it in NHS hospitals. Even Conservative Governments which accepted that it was legitimate for the individual to spend money on extra convenience hospital did not actively encourage it. In fact the tendency to redistribute private beds to one hospital in each region meant that they became less accessible. The

growth of separate private hospitals was a natural consequence, and the withdrawal of private beds at a time when about 2.5m people are covered in one way or another by medical insurance schemes has only accelerated an existing trend.

The insurance movement has met the challenge with an air of confidence which is only partly justified. It relies heavily on NHS beds, and if the phased withdrawal that Mrs Castle speaks of is at all abrupt, it will be hard put to accommodate its customers. Bupa, which is by far the largest organization in the field, has plans to convert hotels into hospitals and to make more intensive use of existing ones by turning near by hotels into convalescent clinics. Building brand new hospitals is more satisfactory than converting existing buildings, but takes several years. In the long run, private medicine's inability to offer doctors career opportunities comparable to those in the NHS may be a greater problem than the question of buildings.

Until this week, Bupa did not provide hospitals itself. In 1957 it sponsored a charity, the Nuffield Nursing Homes Trust, which has opened 24 so far and has four more planned. Bupa's new enterprise (which is in fact

a plan to enlarge and modernize the existing Florence Nightingale Hospital in St Marylebone) is different in that instead of being open to all private patients, as a charitable foundation must be, it would be able to give precedence to Bupa's own subscribers if the shortage of private beds became acute. Other hospitals on the same basis are contemplated. This is a legitimate response to Mrs Castle's challenge, but it is not a development that it is easy to welcome.

Separation of private and public medicine is bound to lead to a waste of resources, both of manpower and equipment. There will be a partial duplication of facilities, and the expensive equipment so important in modern medicine cannot be made full use of in the relatively small hospitals that the private sector needs. The existing uneven geographical distribution of medical services will be aggravated. There is likely to be competition for the services of doctors with high reputations, who may be lost to the public sector. The NHS will be deprived of its marginal but still useful income from private beds. If middle-class patients enter NHS hospitals less often it is possible that the pressures against their becoming a second-class service will be reduced.

Conditions of parole

From the Chairman of the Parole Board

Sir, You published this morning (November 18) the gist of the Apex Trust's paper on the subject of "Employment and Parole". It is a pity that the Trust did not consult the Parole Board about their recommendations; if they had we might have been able to persuade them that they were both unpractical and mistaken.

The major recommendation is that the Parole Board should ignore the employment prospects of the candidates whose cases come before them. But surely, in weighing the prospects of successful rehabilitation, an important consideration must be the likelihood that the candidate will be able to secure and hold a job.

The report nevertheless misrepresents the attitude of the Parole Board to employment prospects. The firm and genuine offer of a job is certainly a favourable factor in parole consideration, but it is only one of many. Moreover, the Board often recommends parole in cases when the most that can be said is

that the candidate seems willing to work for a living at the kind of job which he is capable of doing, and which exists in the area of his home. This attitude places much less weight on the availability of an actual job than the Apex Trust's report suggests.

The Trust's proposal that parole candidates should be informed of the result of their review at least three months before their parole eligibility date is not practical. At present the Parole Board and the Home Office have to strive hard to secure that candidates get the verdict by their parole eligibility date, and this involves starting the review something like three months before that date. To meet the Apex Trust's timetable the process would have to start at least six months before the eligibility date or in the case of a prisoner doing less than three years, less than six months after his arrival in prison, which is much too soon for his performance in custody to be assessed.

The Trust also suggests the deletion from the parole licence of the condition about "leading an industrious life". I suppose that, if one wished to be pedantic, one might

consider substituting the aim for the achievement, and talking in terms of "doing your best to lead an industrious life". But this would be a minor variation. To remove the phrase altogether from the licence would seem to imply that in future parolees need not bother about working.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS PETCH,
Romney House,
Marsham Street, SW1.

Social Contract penalty

From Mr Peter Yorke

Sir, Are we to take it that in the event of a nationalised industry paying wages outside the limits of the Social Contract the Minister responsible will be suitably punished? And if the latter first consulted the Prime Minister, will the Prime Minister be guilty of siding with the wrong side?

Yours faithfully,
PETER YORKE,
Old Hall Green,
Ware,
Hertfordshire.

Use of resources in agriculture

From the President of the National Farmers' Union

Sir, Lord Rothschild's article (November 15) exposes once more the sheer magnitude of the economic problem that faces this country in having to buy as much as £2,534m worth of food per annum from abroad to supplement what we grow at home. The World Food Conference has made us aware, as perhaps never before, of demands upon food supplies, and that we are unlikely ever again to have access to cheap food imports.

At a time when oil has thrust an almost unmanageable fresh burden on the balance of payments, it is vital that the maximum energy and resources should be devoted to safeguarding the nation's food supplies. Surely this means exploiting the potential of British agriculture to the full.

However, sadly, this is not being done at the present time. Successive governments have failed to give the necessary priority to the use of resources in agriculture. We have been hampered by the bureaucracy of the Common Market. The United Kingdom Government delays taking action on agricultural problems because of a fear of causing political problems in the Community. Meanwhile, in Brussels, the Community authorities watch suspiciously over any action taken by Britain to deal with the problems.

Farmers, having suffered outrageously as a result of the withdrawal of effective support from beef, are neither willing nor able to think for the present in terms of further expansion. Only a change in the national attitude towards farming can possibly bring about a renewal of confidence. I believe that this can only be achieved if the British Government takes the lead, both in Brussels and at home, in spelling out a really effective long-term policy for the industry.

Such a policy must provide for two essential elements: a framework of market stability; and the provision of adequate resources. Farmers are simply not going to take the chance of investing more in various branches of production if at the end of the day they experience what our beef producers have had to suffer during the past year.

Certainly the establishment once again of an all-party Select Committee on Agriculture, as suggested by Mr James Douglas (November 18), could be of help in developing an all-party approach. There is also the machinery already operating in the Economic Development Committee for Agriculture. However, basically this is a matter for Government, supported by political opinion.

The danger that now faces the country is that of a reversion to food production. This will not only mean impoverishment for the farmer; it could almost certainly mean a fatal blow for the national economy.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY PLUMB,
Agriculture House,
Knightsbridge, SW1.

Labour Party 'left'

From Mr Richard Clements

Sir, I had always thought that the rewriting of history was reserved for those Stalinist lackies who dropped the names of those who were no longer in favour, or painted "opponents" out of the picture record of the revolution. But I see that Bernard Levin has now placed himself proudly among their ranks.

He writes of the campaign of the Left in the Labour Party "to destroy democracy in the Labour Party and ultimately in the country as a whole". Would it be acceptable for me to reply that Bernard Levin was, from the start, a professional purveyor of lies? No doubt you, Sir, would put it to your libel lawyers and come to the conclusion that it would be unwise to publish such obviously unsubstantiated and damaging allegations. And yet Bernard Levin "steals" the reputations of many thousands of men and women who have worked hard inside what is described as the "Left" of the Labour Party to secure democracy.

I personally have no course of action to recommend. Mr Levin, indeed, do I suggest that he should not be allowed to say what he likes, when he likes and where he likes. But may I give him one word of advice: democracy is destroyed not by those who "campaign" against it, but by those who destroy the credibility of history by massive untruths. It happened in Germany and Italy.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD CLEMENTS,
Editor, Tribune,
24 St John Street, ECL,
November 14.

Honey from road verges

From Miss Chrystal Snell

Sir, Your Science Report "Environment: Worms and Pollution" published on January 25, 1974, states that from a United States report, "earthworms and other small soil animals" pick up metals such as lead, nickel, zinc and cadmium from polluted roadside soils. Do not the plants also, and is thereby the nectar contaminated? If this is so, and the bee survives the exhaust fumes what of the humans eating the honey?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTABEL SNELL,
"Snabod", 27 Orchard Drive,
Bridgnorth, Salop,
November 13.

Journalists' jobs and press freedom

From Mr Robert Platt

Sir, While agreeing in essence with your editorial of November 18, The closed shop for journalists, your laudable doctrine of journalistic ethics may not be the point of argument with the great majority of NUJ members working on provincial and local newspapers.

Whilst we all strive for integrity in our work as journalists I am sure we are all concerned with keeping our jobs. I agree that citizens should have the right to offer their point of view to a newspaper, as your contributors do, but when contributions are paid for, on a regular basis, it undermines the very principle of employing journalists.

Small local newspapers, faced with ever increasing costs, could quite easily manipulate contributed copy on a regular basis, so dispensing with the need for a trained and qualified staff.

Any notion of a responsible and independent body charged with the freedom of the press would thus disappear and the situation would be ripe for even greater censorship by the less scrupulous editors and proprietors.

As a member of the NUJ I am concerned with the maintenance of press freedom as we know it. But I am also concerned with the position of many journalists who work on provincial and local newspapers and whose jobs are threatened by the mis-use of paid for contributed copy.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT PLATT,
Pier Cottage,
Fford Road,
Kinnel Bay, Cwyd,
November 18.

Mr Richard A. P. Woods

Sir, Mr Nicholas Herbert's letter (The Times, November 15) would be an excellent defence of press freedom if the situation to which he refers was as described. Unfortunately this is not the case.

There has been no attempt by the Kenish Times chapel of the NUJ to prevent publication of leaders on local topics written by the Editor of the Kenish Times. Indeed, because of the special position of the Kenish Times chapel has accepted that two men be considered editors for the purpose of this dispute. Those men are the editorial director and the executive editor. Any leader written by either of them would have been published and the public of Bexleyheath, Welwyn, Sidcup, Eltham, Chislehurst, Bromley, Orpington and Beckenham would have had their newspapers pretty much as usual this week.

It has been the custom and practice of the Kenish Times to allow the district editors (so-called) their various editions to write the leaders of their own newspaper. But these leaders have been vetted at the office by, among others, myself. In the event they have been sent back to editors to be altered or re-written. They have even been rejected from time to time. I am not an editor in the sense Mr Herbert so rightly wishes to protect.

If it is the freedom of speech that Mr Herbert defends he must define his freedom. An editor of a newspaper is the man with total authority over the content of his newspaper, including the advertisement section. To exercise his right of free speech he must have direct access to the highest executive of his company. Only that executive may dispose of the editor and his works. To pursue his newspaper's policies that editor must have complete control, financially and personally over his staff. And he must have the power to use all means at his disposal to produce a newspaper in times of stress.

None of these conditions apply to the district editors Mr Herbert is so anxious to protect. If they did he would have my sympathy. He also would not have a dispute.

And he must defend also his decision to shut down these newspapers without recourse to these "editors" and their freedom of opinion. What, too, of his strange decision to make his own staff whose agreement to blacked the NUJ action possible at all?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD A. P. WOODS,
Assistant Editor (News),
Kenish Times Series,
45 Sidcup Hill,
Sidcup, Kent,
November 15.

From Miss Jane M. Fitzgerald and others

Sir, Correspondents to your column should note that they are exercising a privilege of which the future may soon be in doubt as an indirect result of proposed Government legislation. If Bill were introduced Mr Foot hopes to introduce becomes law, members of the Institute of Journalists and individuals in the newspaper industry who do

not belong to unions can expect to be forced either into membership of the NUJ or out of British Journalism.

With sole power in this field, the NUJ would then control all items of news and comment, thus turning our present newspaper system into a propaganda machine for its own views. In the face of such bulldozing, the wide cross-section of opinion represented by readers' letters would stand as little chance of publication as the stimulating and controversial views of journalists themselves.

The Bill with the power to do all this is surprisingly brief and apparently trivial. Unless judged in the full light of the widest implications there is danger of its passing through Parliament virtually unnoticed. Mr Foot, with union approval, aims to reverse crucial amendments introduced to July's Trades Union and Labour Relations Act by the Liberal and Conservative parties.

If this is allowed to happen (and vital legislation has previously passed almost unnoticed through an overladen Parliament; for example, the 1924 Act repealing combinations which permitted the formation of unions), closed shops will become legal and powerful unions enabled to demand the dismissal of any worker who refuses to join. Smaller unions will be summarily forced out of existence. Although compulsory closed shops can simplify negotiating procedure, and are therefore in the short term attractive to employers as well as to leading trades unionists, the ultimate consequence will place an intolerable restriction on personal liberty.

Not only, however, must we fear for the freedom of the press; the very nature of our democracy will be put in jeopardy if this Bill becomes law. Compelling an individual to choose between joining a union whose views he does not share, and unemployment, is against every democratic principle we should uphold. It is the moral responsibility of our representatives in Parliament to safeguard the basic right of the British people to live under a democratic system: if the Bill containing these vital reversals becomes law, they will have failed in this duty.

Yours faithfully,
JANE M. FITZGERALD,
VERONICA R. HOPE,
FRANCESCA THOMAS,
31 Cropwell Road,
Radcliffe-on-Trent,
Nottingham.
November 15.

From Mr J. B. Bransbury
Sir, The declared intention of the Government to remove the Opposition amendments to the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act, 1974, and to replace them by amendments designed to mitigate the harshness of the closed shop must give rise to the very darkest forebodings to all who understand the meaning of a free press; and Lord Hailsham's gloomy forecast at the weekend may all seem too pessimistic and urgent than ever the need to retain (and if possible extend) the amendments so as to give a positive guarantee that in no circumstances will any union be able to control, through a closed shop in newspaper offices, the editorial policy and content of the press.

The point is that the 1974 Act was originally so drafted as to give only a very indirect protection against intimidation through the closed shop. An employer could make any closed shop agreement, and if as a result any of his employees were dismissed for refusing to join the union concerned, they were entitled to compensation from the employer (and not one else) only if they had a religious objection to being a member of any trade union at all. And that was the only protection the Bill gave.

The best that the Opposition could do was to extend the right to compensation will against the employer only to those who objected to joining a particular union on any reasonable ground. Thus, if strike action forced an employer to agree to a closed shop his dissenting employees have no protection at all under the proposed law and same compensation under the existing law—but the public, in the case of many industries but above all in the press, have absolutely no protection against the loss of its most priceless heritage.

It would seem to us therefore that any amendment to the Act should be in the form of a substantive prohibition on any newspaper proprietor or other corporation (statutory or otherwise) engaged in providing public information from undertaking a closed shop so far as concerns any employees responsible for the content or policy of the publication.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. BRANSBURY,
Chairman, Industrial Relations Sub-Committee,
The Bar Association for Commerce, Finance and Industry,
63 Great Cumberland Place, W1,
November 13.

East Sussex library

From Mr Ian Parsons and others

Sir, We wish to draw attention to a disturbing result of local government reorganization that has come about in East Sussex. We hope that you may take warning from our experience.

At the County Library headquarters in Lewes we had, until a month ago, an outstanding collection of non-fiction works, built up over 30 years and extensively used by research workers, writers and students from all over the county. Now a new library subcommittee has planned the closure of this library as from April 1, 1975. We understand that the County Library premises will be used for administrative purposes and as a book depot. There will be no access to the shelves and books will be obtainable only by means of request cards from the various branch libraries all over the county, to which the central collection is being, in part, dispersed.

This action was decided on without consulting library users and without even informing them. The decision was taken by camera by the library sub-committee and was never meant to become public

Compensation for accident injuries

From Mr Anthony Cripps, QC

Sir, May I briefly, but earnestly support my friend, Mr Paul Sieghart's appeal in your columns today (November 16) for a speedy interim report by Lord Pearson's Royal Commission in favour of compensation for motor accident injuries regardless of "fault" (except possibly, as justice made clear, really gross misbehaviour), and add one point of special interest to practising lawyers?

The newspaper reports (November 11 and 14) in using such phrases as "Judges claw back" gave an impression to the public of some "fault" by the judges, of which of course there could be no question. This is an excellent example of how reputations of those administering the law correctly, are most unfairly attacked, when any blame for the outcome of those cases should be placed on the politicians (of all parties) who neglect or delay correction of the law when public opinion shows it to be clearly overruled. This contrivance is substantially to bringing the law into disrepute as does direct disregard of it by criminals who escape detection.

Yours, etc.
ANTHONY CRIPPS,
1 Rancourt Buildings,
Temple EC4,
November 16.

Gibraltar proposals

From the Chief Minister of Gibraltar

Sir, There are a few points which I think deserve mention in the light of Mr James Carson's letter (The Times, November 14).

On the issue of sovereignty, the preamble to the Gibraltar Constitution makes it clear that Gibraltar will remain part of Her Majesty's dominions unless and until an Act of Parliament otherwise provides and that HMG will never enter into arrangements under which the people of Gibraltar would pass under the sovereignty of another state against their freely and democratically expressed wishes. The people of Gibraltar cannot believe that the British Parliament or any British Government, of any party, would let them down on these safeguards.

As to the question of aid, the amount actually granted was £7.6m, not £12m, as it is to be paid over 3 years. The figure is therefore nearer £100 per person than £500. This aid has been given in order to honour the pledge of successive British Governments, of both major parties, to support and sustain the people of Gibraltar in the difficult circumstances created by the Spanish restrictions. Before these restrictions began, Gibraltar's economy was flourishing and we did not have the distasteful task of having to seek help. It is only the Spanish economic blockade that has compelled us to do so.

Do Mr Carson suggest that Britain should abandon its responsibilities, grant no aid to the people of Gibraltar and leave them to a bleak future of decline and isolation?

As we now in the 11th year of our latest siege, we are still balancing our own budget by means of substantial increases in taxation and absorbing inflation—which is entirely outside our control—and the increased cost of oil. We are making our own contribution of £1.5m to the Development Programme.

I am certain that the Minister of Overseas Development has taken all factors into account, including the cost of the Gibraltar Dockyard, and our taxable capacity, before coming to his decision to grant the £1m per annum. I have no doubt that his judgment is better informed than Mr Carson's and that his attitude is more representative of British public opinion than his unworthy slurs.

Yours faithfully,
JOSHUA HASSAN,
Office of the Chief Minister,
Gibraltar.

Clergy stipends

From the Reverend Elsie Chamberlain

Sir, Would it be fair to make a deduction from Mr Stephen E. A. Green's letter (November 9) about "children of the manse" who seem to have a certain amount of character and spirit in the stringency of clergy stipends?

Might the deduction be that where money has less importance, other values come into their own? Yours faithfully,
ELSIE CHAMBERLAIN, President,
Congregational Federation,
Saul Street,
Nottingham.

Tail-catching cats

From Mr T. O. Beachcroft

Sir, In his article in The Times of November 14 Mr Bernard Levin refers to "the land where Two and Two make Five and cats which chase their tails long enough eventually catch them".

The implication is that tail catching is well-known to be impossible. This may be the accepted belief, but my middle-aged tortoiseshell, Rosie, catches her tail quite often. Any cat can of course sit on its side and hold its tail in its paws for purposes of cleaning, but that is not what we are talking about.

Rosie plays the game with the full rigour of the MCC (Marylebone Cat Club) rules. After a very rapid gyration round and round, in which all her feet remain within one small circle, at target, she makes a firm pounce on the end of her tail and pins it to a very abrupt halt. This brings always seems to cause her a dignified surprise.

Now I come to think of it I do not remember that I have seen any other cat do this, though I have seen many cats chase their tails. Perhaps other cat-watchers would like to comment? Yours faithfully,
T. O. BEACHCROFT,
The White Cottage,
10 Datchworth Green,
Knebworth,
Hertfordshire.

Court stays English action against French shipowners on Suez cargo

Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes et Another
Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Diplock and Lord Justice Lawton.

An action for damages for conversion and other relief in tort, begun in England in the interests of London insurers of parts of a Suez Canal since 1967, was properly stayed by the English court because the French shipowners and the foreign cargo owners had agreed that all disputes arising under the contract contained in 365 bills of lading should be governed by French law; and under French law where a cause of action arises out of a contract a plaintiff cannot claim in contract and in tort for the same wrong.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an interlocutory appeal by five cargo owners, four French and one Italian, from Mr Justice Ackner, in chambers, who had stayed their proposed action for damages for, *inter alia*, conversion and relief by injunction sought to be brought in England against *Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes*, owners of the vessel *Sindh*, arising out of the trapping of the vessel in the Suez Canal in the Six day War of 1967.

Mr Michael Mustill, QC, and Mr R. J. Thomas for the cargo owners; Mr Robert Goff, QC, and Mr Nicholas Phillips for the shipowners.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in May, 1967, a cargo was loaded in the Far East on the *Sindh*, a French vessel owned by the *Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes*, the second largest French shipowners, under some 365 bills of lading. It was a mixed cargo of rubber, timber, tin, jute and all sorts of things, most of it destined for France. She got into the Suez Canal on June 6/7, 1967, and there she had stayed. The shipowners put a crew on board to try to look after her, but no doubt she rusted and some of the cargo, being perishable, got out of condition or deteriorated.

The long and the short of it was that in 1970 the shipowners negotiated for the sale of the ship and the cargo. They went to the courts in France and got approval for the appointment of the equivalent of a receiver, all *ex parte*. Eventually a sale was arranged to Norwegian interests, for something over £100,000—very much less than the ship and cargo would have been worth if they had reached their destination or could have been got out of the Canal.

After and not before the sale, the shipowners told the cargo owners what had been done and that they proposed to distribute the proceeds of sale among the various interests and there were negotiations for the purpose. Apparently quite a lot of the goods were insured on the French market, a good part on the London market, and some Michelin rubber was not insured at all.

The London insurers did not find the proposals for distribution acceptable and eventually they brought an action in the English courts, claiming among other things that there was a conversion of the cargo, so far as their interests were concerned, by the sale in France in 1970.

The insurers said that the property in the cargo had never passed from them and that they were still entitled to it because the sale was not authorized and so was invalid, whereas the shipowners said that it was authorized by French law under a doctrine—not the same as our doctrine of agent of necessity but a similar doctrine—called *gestion d'affaires*.

When the London insurers issued a writ in the name of the five cargo holders, the shipowners had an address for service and a place of business in London and their solicitors accepted service. But they took objection to the English proceedings because of a clause—called the exclusive jurisdiction clause—which was in all the bills of lading, originally drafted in French but turned into English. It provided that "All disputes caused by the interpretation or the execution of the present Bill of Lading will be submitted . . . to in effect the Tribunal of Commerce of Marseilles or that of the Seine 'at plaintiff's choice'."

That clause appeared in a contract which was beyond a doubt a French contract, the proper law of which was French law. The goods were carried in a ship under the French flag and pretty well everything connected with it was French.

The primary question was whether the proceedings started in England were caught by that clause so that they must be stayed because the parties themselves had agreed that they should go to the French courts.

There had been considerable evidence before the judge on the interpretation of that clause and much discussion about a French doctrine called the doctrine of *non cumul*. It appeared to be French law that in a case like the present, where cargo had been

sold by shipowners in the circumstances related, the only claim admissible in France or the French courts was a claim for breach of contract. No claim would lie for anything like an independent tort. Some might think that there was a way of having an independent tort arising out of a contract in France—where, for instance, the landlord and tenant were disputing about rent and the tenant hit the landlord over the head there might be an action for an independent tort in France.

But in the present case, whether it was for non-delivery of goods or other dealing with the goods or a sale in the circumstances mentioned, French law would not admit any cause or claim other than a claim in contract; and by French law on all the evidence any claim arising out of the facts would be governed by the clause and would have to be determined by French law.

For the London insurers Mr Mustill had said that the rest of the action in England should go on depended, not on the factual nature of the claim itself, but on the particular way in which it was formulated. He relied on *Monro v Bogner Urban District Council* ([1915] 3 KB 167), where there was a contract for sewage works and an arbitration clause but the plaintiff sued for fraudulent misrepresentation in inducing the contract; and it was held that that claim for fraud was not caught by the arbitration clause. Mr Mustill had relied on Lord Justice Baines who said at p 173: "The only point is whether the claim which is brought—whether it is good, bad or indifferent—comes within the submission to arbitration."

His Lordship thought that case had no application to the present one. It had nothing to do with conflict of laws and the like. The only real point was whether the exclusive jurisdiction clause, interpreted as it must be by French law, covered any claim which could be made on the facts before the court.

On the evidence it seemed that the clause did cover any claim which could be formulated on those facts and was caught by the clause. Therefore the action could not be allowed to go on in England. The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD DIPLOCK, concurring, said that during argument much had been said about the classification of the claim and the way it was formulated. Classification for the purposes of private international law was a step towards deciding the choice of law; and if the plaintiffs were allowed to go on with their action in this country no doubt it would be relevant to classify their claim as formulated either in tort or in contract in order to choose the proper law to be applied to a tort which had not been committed in England, or to the contract if it was a claim in contract.

But that was not the question on the appeal. The question was whether they should be allowed to go on with their action. The first ground on which the judge decided to prevent their doing so by staying the action was because they had agreed that any claim of the kind they were formulating would be dealt with exclusively by the French courts.

The only question of classification which arose therefore was whether the ground for the stay arose out of an agreement between the parties. Was what the court was looking for a contract? Was that what the decision depended on? The answer was yes, for that was the ground of the assertion. The contract must therefore be looked at to see what was its proper law.

It was not and never had been disputed that it was French. Before the judge there had been some interesting and complex questions of French law, to be decided on the evidence, as to whether on its true interpretation the exclusive jurisdiction clause would apply to claims of the kind the plaintiffs were seeking to assert in the English action.

The judge held, interpreting the contract according to French law, as he was bound to do under English rules of private international law, that the exclusive jurisdiction clause did apply to claims of the present kind. That finding, being a finding on foreign law, was treated by our courts as a finding of fact; and Mr Mustill had not sought to dispute that as a finding of fact it was correct.

Lord Justice Lawton agreed. Solicitors: Jace & Co; Holman, Fenwick & Willan.

Appointments

The Rev P. b. Barber, Vicar of Bourne, Farnham, diocese of Guildford, to be also Dean of Farnham.

The Rev J. C. Priestley, assistant curate of Blackburn, to be Vicar of Christ Church, Colne, same diocese.

The Rev G. J. Sips, Vicar of Berechurch, Colchester, diocese of Chelmsford, to be Vicar of St Saviour's, Walsley, same diocese.

Diocese of Canterbury

The Rev J. H. R. de Saumarez, Vicar of St Peter-in-Thanel, to be also Rural Dean of Thanel.

The Rev J. H. Gardner-Watson Green, Rector of Sandhurst with Newenden, to be also Rural Dean of West Chertsey.

The Rev Dr E. M. Hughes, Vicar of St Mary's, Dover, to be also Rural Dean of Dover.

Diocese of Chester

The Rev R. W. Howard, Vicar of Penryn, to be Vicar of Helsby and Rural Dean of Frodsham.

The Rev J. P. Martin, Vicar of St Peter's, Congleton, to be also Rural Dean of Congleton.

The Rev R. E. Tostevin, Rector of Woodchurch, to be also Rural Dean of Birmeston.

Diocese of Gloucester

The Rev B. M. Ford, St Mary's Cathedral, Auckland, to be priest in charge of Upper and Lower Slaughter with Eford and Naunton.

The Rev T. T. Gibson, Vicar of

Roude, diocese of Salisbury, to be Vicar of Badminton with Acton Turville. The Rev G. S. Mowat, Vicar of Co. St Aidwyn with Hildesdon and Clonsdon, to be also Rural Dean of Farnham.

Diocese of Peterborough

The Rev M. J. M. Glover, chaplain to the Bishop of Peterborough, to be Rector of the Emmanuel team ministry, Northampton.

The Rev G. Price, formerly Vicar of St Mark's, Peterborough, and a lay minister, to be a canon emeritus, Peterborough Cathedral.

The Rev R. V. Wallis, priest in charge of St Andrew's, Southville, Northampton, to be a team vicar in the same team ministry, Northampton.

Diocese of Portsmouth

The Rev R. T. Little, assistant chaplain at Dismal, diocese of London (North and Central), Europe, to be Rector of Meonstone with Compton with Exton.

Captain W. W. Sheppard, secretary and treasurer, Portsmouth diocese, to be a lay canon, Portsmouth Cathedral.

Diocese of York

The Rev R. L. Brown, Vicar of Luke's, York, to be Vicar of Barby, Wetherby.

The Rev F. G. Robinson, Vicar of Wetherby, to be Vicar of Kettlewell.

Retirements

The Rev W. R. Ling, priest in charge of All Saints, Newchurch, Isle of Wight, to retire Dec 31.

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, November 19, 1949.

First-class trips

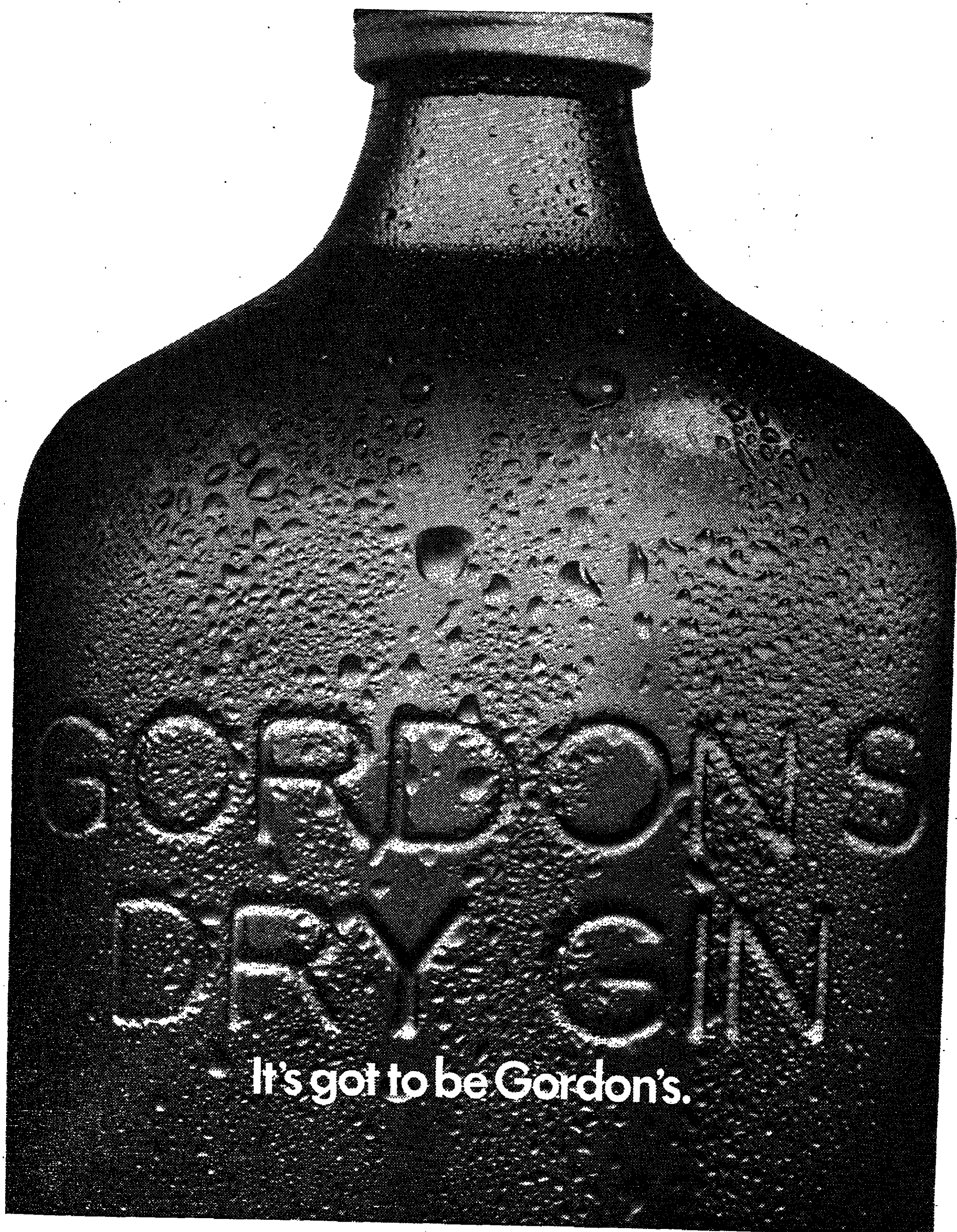
From Our Shipping Correspondent

For the first time since before the war the P & O and Orient companies now have first-class and tourist-class accommodation to offer prospective passengers to Australia who have not already registered for passages. This means that long waiting lists have nearly

been disposed of and the way open for tourist traffic.

The P & O can offer accommodation for first-class passengers from January onwards and for tourist class passengers from March.

There is still a waiting list about 20,000 persons for passage to New Zealand. Many of these are known to desire the low rate accommodation, and the New Zealand Shipping Company, which has lately commissioned one of the new liner and will shortly be commissioning another, is now in a position to offer accommodation of highest-rated types for sailings soon.



It's got to be Gordon's.

هكذا من الأصل

ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use pref. 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA AND BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 210 1921
 Tonight: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 1.1. & 2.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 3.1. & 4.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
 Performance cancelled due to the illness of the soloists.
EDWARD VI 1672 1921
 1.1. & 2.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 3.1. & 4.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
LONDON CONTEMPORARY
 Tonight & Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 1.1. & 2.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 3.1. & 4.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921

CONCERTS

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 210 1921
 Tonight: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 1.1. & 2.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 3.1. & 4.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
MUSIC STUDIO with grand piano for
 1.1. & 2.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 3.1. & 4.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921

THEATRES

ADRIAN 210 1921
 Tonight: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 1.1. & 2.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
 3.1. & 4.1. Tomorrow: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
DR. WHO 210 1921
 Tonight: **THE ROYAL BALLET** 210 1921
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EXHIBITIONS

ADULT MENTALLY HANDICAPPED
 Display of work done by students of the
 Royal College of Art, London, in the field of
 handicrafts. 10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

HIGHLAND HOME INDUSTRIES

"Wool, the spinner and the wheel"
 Exhibition of the work of the
 Highland Home Industries. 10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

ART EXHIBITIONS

AGNEW GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF FINE

SPORTING PAINTINGS AND PRINTS
 10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

ACKERMANN'S

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

ANTHONY D'OFFAY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

BLACKMAN KAUFMAN GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

THEATREWORK

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

CHRISTIE'S CONTEMPORARY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

COLNAGH'S

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

DRIAN GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

FIELDORNE GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

BRITISH PAINTING '74

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

HENRY MOORE

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

GALLERY 21

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

GERALD M. NORMAN GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

EXHIBITION

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

LASSON GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

LEGER GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

MARJORIE PARR GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

MAYOR GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

MOORLAND GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

NEW ENGLISH ART CLUB

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

M. NEWMAN LTD.

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

100 YEARS OF ART

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

O'DONOGHUE GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

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10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

PATRICK GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

RUTLAND GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

SERPENTINE GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

SLAUGHTER GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

SPINK

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

THEATREWORK

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

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THE ARTS

Ian Caddy
Purcell Room

Alan Blyth

Ian Caddy has already made something of a name for himself on the stage as a singer and actor of presence and character. His baritone is well-focused and quite full, with a little acerbity in the tone to give it bite. Unfortunately, in his recital on Monday evening, it was just that touch of harshness that became at times magnified in the uncomfortable Purcell Room acoustics and rather detracted from his boldness in tackling *Canto d'Ugolino*, a dramatic cantata by Donizetti being heard, it is thought, for the first time in London.

Here was all the histrionic verve remembered from Mr Caddy's operatic interpretations as he portrayed a hard done-by father meeting his tormentor in Hades, and returning the compliment in an outpouring of anger and insinuation. As I have suggested, the young baritone's voice hardened under pressure, but the feeling for Donizetti line and a wide range of emotion was all there in a piece, written for Lablache, that does not deserve its neglect. It shows Donizetti in 1828 flexing his musical muscles in no uncertain terms.

That was something of a tour de force at the start of a recital which was a series of pieces to precede it. The tenor sang severely in a Schubert group where Mr Caddy did not quite command the German or the steadiness to do justice to an arduous selection of songs. In such a severe test as "The Bird" he created the right traumatic mood but did not clinch it with either enough carity of colouring or grip on its wonderful contours.

A true command of this idiom was also missing in Wagner's *esendoncklied* at least until "Traume" the last and most successful of the set where, with Jennifer Coullas setting just the right pace and atmosphere in her accompanying, Mr Caddy began to respond to the full range of Wagnerian heart-searching.

ART EXHIBITIONS

TEMPLE GALLERY, ICONS, 4, York

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

THE ALPINE SOCIETY GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

CLAUD MONET

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

THE WADDINGTON GALLERIES

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

TERRY PROUST

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

TRYON GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

WHITWORTH ART GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

WILLIAM WESTON GALLERY

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

RESTAURANTS

APPROPRIATE'S

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

CRAIG DOUGLAS

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

FARMER'S

10.10.74 to 10.11.74. Free.

FARMER'S

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FARMER'S

For Saving
Investing and
Purchase-Purchase

HALIFAX
BUILDING SOCIETY

Sea groups want grants to ease new tax burden on marginal developments

There were being expressed in the night that the new tax could hit the development of the smaller, marginal fields, which have become uneconomic only since the quadrupling of oil prices.

Mr. Jesse Wyllie, president of the North Sea Oil Corporation, said the Government's tax plans would reduce efforts to get oil.

Companies must have a 25 per cent profit to make it worthwhile getting oil out of the North Sea, he said. The new tax plus corporation tax on ordinary company profits, would cut profits down to an unsustainably small amount.

As expected, the Oil Taxation Bill also introduces measures to put a "ring fence" around offshore production for corporation tax purposes, to ensure that non-North Sea losses are not offset against North Sea operations, and strengthens the corporation tax transfer pricing rules.

Commenting on the Bill, Mr. Dell said that it aimed to ensure a fair return to the United Kingdom from the exploitation of North Sea oil and to give the companies a fair return. The taxation method chosen would ensure that the full balance of payments protection and benefit. Without it there could be a considerable loss to Britain because large sums of money went out of the country.

Mr. Dell denied that the tax

critical question now was the rate at which the new tax would be levied.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

سكزا من الأصل

For Saving
Investing and
House-Purchase

HALIFAX
BUILDING SOCIETY

Unions urge complete takeover of NVT

By Clifford Webb

National officials of the major unions have told Mr. Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, that they will support any move to make a nationalised Norton Villiers Triumph, providing it includes the reopening of Triumph motor cycle works at Meriden.

Mr. Benn invited representatives of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions to his office to discuss the impasse which has arisen from his meeting with NVT workers employed at Small Heath, Birmingham. They are bitterly opposed to the Government's plan to purchase Meriden from NVT.

The delegation included Mr. Jack Shore, general secretary of the Confederation, Mr. Bob Wright of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Mr. Tom Crispin, of the Transport and General Workers, and Mr. Ken Baker, of the General and Municipal Workers.

Among the points made by the union leaders in favour of complete nationalisation was the need for a British motor cycle industry which would be able to manufacture small machines for the new market.

NVT output is restricted to big two and three cylinder machines sold principally in the United States as "fun" transport bikes for the new market.

Mr. Crispin, of the T & GWU, the union which has taken a leading part in the negotiations on behalf of the workers' co-operative, is to hold talks with shop stewards.

Since the confrontation 12 days ago between Mr. Benn and the Small Heath workers there has been a noticeable deterioration in relations between NVT management and the co-operative. For the past two months the cooperative's pickets have permitted NVT representatives to enter Meriden to supervise the choice and dispatch of cycles barricaded inside the plant since it closed nearly a year ago.

Yesterday morning pickets moved away from Mr. Hugh Palin, NVT's director of external affairs. From their shouted comments it was apparent that they blamed NVT for "engineering" the opposition of their colleagues at Small Heath.

IMF approves \$500m loan to Italy for oil

Washington, Nov 19.—A loan of nearly \$500 million (£214.6m) for oil imports has been approved by the International Monetary Fund. This is the second IMF loan to help Italy pay for its oil imports. A credit of \$315m was announced in September.—AP-Dow Jones.

Mr Wilbur Mills attempts to speed up Congress passage of tax changes Bill

From Frank Vogl

Washington, Nov 19.—Members of the House Ways and Means Committee moved with great speed today on a new and tight tax Bill. Mr. Wilbur Mills, chairman of the committee, pushed it through the House of Representatives before the end of the month.

The committee today agreed to increase the investment tax credit rate for electrical power companies to 7 per cent from 4 per cent which should provide the utilities with about \$300m (about £131m) of tax relief a year.

It also agreed to the abolition of oil depletion allowances, which should save about \$2,500m a year. A further item that is likely to be settled late today or tomorrow is an increase in taxes on companies with income from abroad, which should raise about \$300m.

How the markets moved

Rises
Barclays Bk 3p to 115p
Broken Hill 6p to 45p
Courtauld 3p to 59p
Central Wagon 2p to 27p
EMI 2p to 71p
Glaxo Mids 6p to 21p
Greencourt 1p to 61p

Falls
Avon Rubber 7p to 52p
Anglo Am Corp 35p to 38p
Consolidated 15p to 50p
French T 51p to 42p
Fodens 2p to 15p
Gomme Bldgs 7p to 40p
Kinross 30p to 75p

Equities were featured by falls in gold shares. Gold-edged securities were steady. Sterling fell 85 points to \$2,340. The "effective devaluation" rate was 20.4 per cent. Gold dropped \$4.25 to \$186.50. SDRs were 1.20535 while SDRs fell 0.5 p to 1.222.—The first time this year it has fallen below its year-ago level.

Commodities: Sugar values continued to rise with the London

Lonrho chairman signs £6.1m deal increasing Kuwait stake to 14pc

By Peter Wainwright

Lonrho, the pan-African mining and services conglomerate, yesterday agreed a deal in Kuwait which will increase to 14 per cent the Kuwaiti stake in the company, which already amounted to 3 million shares.

Last year, Lonrho was the subject of a bitter boardroom dispute which then moved into the political arena, and prompted Mr. Heath's remark about the unacceptability of "capitalism".

The deal gives Shaikh Sabah, Amir of Kuwait, eight million new 25p ordinary shares at an average price of 76.25p, making his cash injection into Lonrho £6.1m. The issue of the new shares depends on Lonrho shareholders agreeing at an extraordinary meeting still to be convened.

Both sides hope that the agreement will lead to closer links in the expansion of Lonrho's operations. The deal reflects the entrepreneurial flair of group architect and chief executive Mr. "Toby" Rowland who told shareholders in his annual report last March that Lonrho planned to pursue projects in partnership with Arab and African interests.

He added that: "We hope that this will become the most important aspect of our business."

The deal does not spell out where the new money will be spent. It appears that some of it will go into the existing gold and sugar business, and the rest

into partnership ventures in Kuwait and elsewhere for projects like irrigation and civil engineering.

Partnership ventures will not necessarily be on a fifty-fifty basis. The question of board representation for the Kuwaitis is likely to come up soon but in any event the new shareholding added to Mr. Rowland's own 20 per cent or so will be friendly to him.

Lonrho hopes that this deal will be the forerunner of others but nothing is planned outside the present sphere of interest in Black Africa, and Arabia.

The group's merchant bankers, Keyser Ullmann, played no part in arranging the deal but did play a leading part last year in backing Mr. Rowland against the eight dissident directors led by Sir Basil Smallpeice, who argued against the chief executive's plans to move the group more closely towards Africa and Arabia.

The eight dissident directors, led by Sir Basil Smallpeice, who argued against the chief executive's plans to move the group more closely towards Africa and Arabia.

An attempt to unseat Mr. Rowland in one of the most bitter boardroom rows of recent years went to the High Court in 1973.

But it failed after an overwhelming vote of confidence in Mr. Rowland from Lonrho share-

holders. The eight dissidents, as they called, were voted off the board.

Since then Mr. Rowland has been trying to fix up something like the present deal and in fact the Kuwaiti interests have been buyers of Lonrho's shares for the past year or so.

Earlier this year it was understood that the Kuwait-controlled Gulf International had built up a small share stake and its managing director, Dr. Khalid Osman has also been a Lonrho backer.

Since the boardroom clash Lonrho's trading has gone ahead. Last year pre-tax profits of nearly £25m were particularly helped by sterling depreciation. In June last year when Mr. Rowland and his friends won their boardroom battle the shares were 77p but still 18p below the price just before the news of the split came out in April.

Yesterday they closed at 72½p, after touching 75p as rumours of an imminent development began to circulate.

Apart from trading the shares still have to swallow the outcome of an inquiry being carried out by the Department of Trade.

There is also the keen interest being shown by the board in moving Lonrho's domicile away from Britain.

Yesterday the group said that the matter was still being considered but nothing had been decided. If anything, the case for going abroad seemed even more attractive than before.

Warning of farming bankruptcies

An attack on legal restrictions and a forecast of widespread bankruptcies came from leaders of two farmers' unions yesterday.

Mr. George Cartell, director of the National Farmers' Union, said that the Restrictive Trade Practices Act and the Fair Trading Act were "obstacles to the healthy growth of organized agricultural production and marketing."

He told members of the Essex branch of the union: "The laws go out of their way to prevent the very developments which politicians, agricultural administrators and farmers themselves now believe are essential."

He said it was absurd for the law to impose fragmentation when the Ministry of Agriculture was funding the development of farming co-operatives.

On the bid by the NFU to withdraw from the FMC, he said: "Since the Trust is not a trading enterprise and could add nothing to FMC's share of the market, it must be difficult for anyone to see how or why a monopoly or a threat to the public interest could possibly exist."

Americans step in to boost ailing dollar

By Melvyn Westlake

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York appears to be giving active support to the ailing dollar. As a result the American currency staged a partial recovery yesterday, after weakening steadily for several days.

The action of the Federal Reserve Bank has given rise to considerable confusion on the foreign exchanges. It would seem to indicate that the policies of the West German and United States monetary authorities are working in opposite directions.

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the German Chancellor, said last week that he was prepared to allow the value of the Deutsche Mark to rise as a means of reducing his country's enormous trade surplus.

Government officials in Bonn have also hinted that Germany would be willing to absorb a higher volume of imports from its trading partners, if the mark exchange rate was allowed to appreciate to help neutralize the impact of imported inflation.

The limited market intervention of the West German Federal Bank in recent days has

been consistent with such an objective.

The Swiss central bank has also refrained from intervening in the market to impede the rise of the franc against the dollar. This inaction would seem to be inconsistent with reports just a week ago that the central bankers of the leading nations, meeting in Basle, had agreed to support the dollar if necessary.

Between the time of this reported agreement and last Monday, when the Federal Bank in New York began its own support operations, the dollar fell nearly 5 per cent against the mark, and almost 7½ per cent against the Swiss franc.

The action by the Federal Reserve in the past two days in reversing the downward drift of the dollar now suggests that the United States monetary authorities have no intention of allowing the dollar to depreciate against the strong European currencies by more than a very limited amount, even if assistance has to be predominately given in New York.

The American support operations are being described as "aggressive" by dealers in the market.

£50m ammonia plant planned

Plans for the construction of a £50m ammonia plant in Scotland by using natural gas from the North Sea as a feedstock were announced yesterday. The Norwegian concern, Norsk Hydro, and Supra AB, of Sweden, which is involved in the manufacture of fertilizers, have lodged an application for outline planning permission for the plant to be built at Peterhead, Aberdeenshire.

The proposed plant, which would be operated by a joint company, Scantrac, would have a capacity of between 300,000 and 350,000 tons annually.

A significant improvement in the Group's result for the year has been afforded by a combination of increased production and higher price levels. Having obtained the necessary permission under the Counter-Inflation Order, the Directors recommend a dividend of 6.7p on the ordinary share capital.

Approval has been received for the sale of Tippecanoe tea estate and the sale agreement in respect of Hukanpukri tea estate has also been sanctioned. Slow but steady progress has been made in the repatriation to the country of the sale proceeds of the other estates sold by the Group since 1969, the repatriation of the outstanding instalments is expected over the next three years.

We can expect a substantial increase in the profits of our Malawi estates for the year to 30th June, 1974, as a result of a 20% crop increase to a new record of 2.45 million kgs, and a further improvement in market prices.

The production of the Group's estates in India has been adversely affected by unfavourable weather, causing them to fall back from an initially promising start to the current season, but prices have so far been significantly higher than a year ago. However, in both India and Malawi tea production costs are now unavoidably and increasingly exposed to the effects of world-wide inflation.

H. G. SINCLAIR, Chairman
Jokai Tea Holdings Limited, Dunster House, 57 Mincing Lane, London, EC3R 7BY.

Copies of the annual report can be obtained from The Secretaries, Jokai Tea Holdings Limited, Dunster House, 57 Mincing Lane, London, EC3R 7BY.

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Cheap textile imports threaten jobs of 250,000

By Peter Hill

Warnings that the jobs of more than 250,000 workers in Britain's knitting industry and in other sectors of the textile industry were being jeopardized by government attitudes towards low cost imports were given yesterday.

Mr. E. A. Swann, retiring President of the Knitting Industries Federation, emphasized that low cost imports last year exceeded the £100m mark for the first time.

The negotiation of the Multi-Fibre Agreement under the aegis of the Gatt, he said, provided the long awaited tool through which to regulate the orderly marketing of textiles and clothing on a world-wide basis.

Japanese lay-offs: More than 10,600 textile workers have lost their jobs in an industry recession that has resulted in 139 bankruptcies, factory closings and operation cutbacks this year, a union reports.

Compiled and released by the Japan Federation of Textile Workers Unions, also said the industry has temporarily laid off another 5,200 workers.

MPs seek steel plants reprieve

Scottish Labour MPs are asking Mr Wedgwood Benn, Industry Secretary to save 5,000 steel jobs in Scotland until alternative jobs are found.

Dr Jeremy Bray, MP for Motherwell, has sponsored a Commons motion calling on Mr Benn to refuse permission for closure of certain British Steel Corporation works "until equivalent alternative employment is provided".

Policies will be geared to reducing inflation, OECD nations promise

Paris, Nov 19.—Top officials of the 24 leading industrial countries agreed to give priority in their economic policies to reducing inflation, Sir Douglas Allen, British Treasury official, said.

But during detailed talks, all countries said they were prepared to reflate their economies if there was a cumulative recession, he said.

Sir Douglas was speaking at the end of the meeting of the economic policy committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Although the 24 countries as a whole would end this year with zero growth, there was no

indication at present of a cumulative downturn, he said. Sir Douglas, who chaired the discussions, said 1975 should show a gradual improvement in OECD economic activity, though growth would be at a low rate.

This year is the first since the OECD's inception in 1961 in which its economies have shown no real expansion. It compares with a 1973 growth of 6.5 per cent.

Many governments feel that any growth in domestic demand must remain moderate until it is clear the rise in prices is falling to more acceptable rates.

Sir Douglas said there was a widespread belief among gov-

ernment that confidence in the value of money must be restored for the system of free capital markets to function efficiently.

Financial markets are under extreme pressure, and long-term borrowing would continue to be difficult until inflationary expectations could be subdued, the committee felt.

Recent months had seen an unexpectedly pronounced slowdown in several important countries, Sir Douglas said.

Sectoral differences were emerging with bottlenecks in steel, coal, and basic chemicals but serious slack in the car, textile, housing and tourism industries.—Reuter.

Gatt warning by Japanese of trade war risk

From Alan McGregor

Geneva, Nov 19

Emergency restrictions by individual governments "could very well trigger a general trade war", Mr Hideo Kitahara, of Japan, said today in opening the annual session of Gatt (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) of which he is chairman.

He called on countries to avoid "short-sighted, short-run policies that would plunge us all into deeper difficulties", and cause economic disaster in many areas.

"The plain fact is that the world is confronted with the most critical economic situation of the postwar period and is in deep trouble", Mr Kitahara said.

The multilateral trading system, which had survived the severe buffeting of the recent past, was the best guarantee against inward-looking national policies.

Drug industry 'must pay more for research'

By Malcolm Brown

Sir Ronald Edwards, chairman of the Beecham Group said last night that the drug industry must have a significant increase in research and development expenditure just to hold its own against world wide competition.

Delivering the fifth Mercantile Credit Lecture at Reading University, Sir Ronald said: "The ability to spend heavily on research depends upon sales volume, and the top 15 firms on the basis of worldwide turnover exclude all the British firms."

The scale of research effort was geared to the size of the firm. Large programmes could not be carried by firms with small sales and profits.

"What society has to aim at is a competitive framework in which firms will be induced to undertake the level of innovative investment that society considers desirable", Sir Ronald said.

Crushed glass being tested as building material

By Edward Townsend

A new building material, comprising large quantities of crushed waste glass is being developed by Redland, the big construction industry supplier. It could have a major significance for the United Kingdom glass industry.

The new cladding material, still at the experimental stage follows a similar development in the United States of a material 90 per cent of which is waste glass. It is reckoned to have particular decorative strength and insulation qualities.

Mr C. R. Corness, Redland's managing director said yesterday that the development was "nowhere near pilot plant production stage" and might prove to be impractical.

However, it could provide a major new outlet for crushed glass, or cullet.

Cook lists 'approved' holiday tour operators

A list of "approved" holiday tour operating companies was launched yesterday by Thomas Cook, the travel company formerly owned by the Government.

The list is part of a new "money back guarantee" scheme drawn up as a result of the failure of Court Line in which 6,500 Thomas Cook customers lost money.

Under the scheme passengers are told that if they choose an operator on the approved list they will get their money back within 24 hours in the event of the operators' financial failure.

The list so far includes just over 100 out of the 300 or so tour companies in operation. But Thomas Cook said more names will be announced within the next 10 days.

Approved operators, the company says, are those which present a "proper financial risk" will produce the holiday tour offer, and have entered into satisfactory arrangements with Thomas Cook.

The company has gone ahead with the scheme despite imminent moves for a government-backed rescue fund for the industry. Travel representatives are to meet today to complete proposals for the fund.

The scheme met with a mixed reception from the industry. Some travel agents felt that Thomas Cook was unfairly advantaged of its size and influence.

Mr Harry Chandler, chairman of the tour operators section of the Association of British Travel Agents, described it as "an astute marketing move".

Fall in German GNP

Recessive influences predominated in the German economy in the third quarter this year for the first time since the end of 1971, according to the West Berlin-based economic research institute DIW. Real gross national product, seasonally adjusted, had shown a drop.

Iran power plants

After Monday's signature of an agreement with France for the establishment of two nuclear power plants in Iran, Dr Akbar Etemad, head of Iran's nuclear energy commission, signed a deal with West Germany's Kraftwerk Union Company for the setting up of a 2,000 megawatt nuclear power plant.

500 strike at Vickers

There was more trouble yesterday at the Vickers shipyard and engineering complex at Barrow-in-Furness when 500 electricians walked out. They protested that the company had refused to give more workers without first offering them the opportunity of working more overtime.

Public sector's finance eroded, brokers say

By Business News Staff

Inflation has had a grave effect on the public sector's financial position because it has eroded the base of the tax system, according to the latest *Monetary Bulletin* from W. Greenwell & Co., the stock-brokers publishers yesterday.

The big increase in public sector borrowing is attributed to the reduction in the real value of indirect taxes as inflation proceeds. Contrary to the widely held belief that inflation causes taxes to rise faster in money terms than government spending, "the public sector has not been gaining from inflation; it has been losing".

The *Bulletin* describes this phenomenon as a negative fiscal drag, which is aggravated by the rate of inflation. Potentially, this could cause "a progressive deterioration in the financial position of the Government".

In countries such as Brazil from 1950 to 1966 and Germany from 1919 to 1923 this has caused "an explosion in the money supply" and, subsequently, hyperinflation.

The *Bulletin* is not critical of the size of the present borrowing requirement. If it was a deliberately planned temporary measure that was programmed to reduce steadily "the present borrowing requirement would be appropriate".

But the trouble, according to the *Bulletin*, is that the borrowing requirement is, instead, "the result of unplanned negative fiscal drag".

It also lays stress on the growth on public expenditure in the 1974-75 fiscal year. In particular, it highlights the Treasury's error in underestimating the growth of public investment between the first half of 1973 and the first half of 1974 by 104 per cent, which, it says, "seems incredible".

Finnish mission to see Mr Shore

Members of a 25-strong trade mission from Finland, headed by Mr Tankar Horn, chairman of the Federation of Finnish Industries, are to meet Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, tomorrow at the end of a four-day visit to Britain.

The mission has been investigating how the imbalance of trade between Britain and Finland can be repaired. In the first nine months of this year Britain imported £374m worth of goods from Finland, mainly wood, wool products and pulp, and exported to Finland goods worth £174m.

While in Britain members of the mission have been visiting manufacturers in the Midlands and in the South-east as well as having talks with City banks, Lloyd's Register of Shipping and the British Marine Export Council.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Objections concerning stock appreciation

From Professor A. J. Merritt

and Mr Alan Sykes

Sir, We were amused by the letter of Messrs Wynne Godley and Adrian Wood on November 12. It represents an extraordinary mixture of bluff, a refusal to answer substantive objections and basic misunderstandings as to fairly elementary points of accounting and finance.

The last would take far too much space to elucidate, but let us touch upon the first two.

As to bluff, Messrs Godley and Wood state that no one has defended our point of view to the effect that stock appreciation should not be treated as part of profits. In fact, our view has been strongly supported and Messrs Godley and Wood's views opposed not only by the financial writers in the main daily and Sunday papers, but in your own correspondence columns.

In your November 11 edition, for instance, Mr R. E. Artus, the chairman of the Society of Investment Analysts, supported our position on every substantive point. Regarding stock appreciation he remarked that under the present severe inflationary conditions the maintenance of stocks requires extra funds which should not be taxable.

He goes on to state: "Yet the essential functions of accounts should surely include the determination of that part of a company's revenue in a period which is set aside (whether to be distributed or retained in the business) would leave the company as well placed to continue its activities as at the beginning of the period." He later made many more cogent points, and, indeed,

his whole letter can be reread with advantage by all who are interested in the subject.

It is difficult to discover what more authoritative statement of the profits which are relevant to the suppliers of capital could be than the Society of Investment Analysts on whose behalf Mr Artus has the honour to speak.

Since Messrs Godley and Wood in fact refer to this letter in another context in their reply, they cannot shelter behind the claim of oversight (as may apply to other newspapers), and must be convicted of simply attempting to bluff the public into accepting their position on what they must know to be a misstatement of the facts.

Turning now to the substantive points of our position to which Messrs Godley and Wood make no attempt to reply, let us briefly restate what these are. Our position is that where an industrial company experiences an increase in asset values through no voluntary act of its own but due to the effects of cost inflation, there are no grounds for including this increase in asset values as part of profit as is the case where stock appreciation is so included.

Our grounds for this are that there is no reason to suppose that the company's claims on future cash flow (from higher prices, greater volumes, etc) will in any way be enhanced by this increase in asset value, and it is precisely these cash flows which constitute the real value of the company to the shareholders. Our evidence for this is the fact that were it not true, then every trade association for every industry would be actively seeking price increases from suppliers to the industry in order that the industry might secure the benefits of stock appreciation.

Our challenge to Messrs Godley and Wood is therefore quite simply as follows: if they produce a list of industries in which the conditions it is supposed to be universal obtain that is industries in which elasticity of demand is zero; access to 100 per cent borrowing on increased asset value automatic, as is the right to increase prices by the amount of the interest charge so incurred.

When they have produced such a list (which will be of intense interest to the investment community since such information is clearly invaluable to the standpoint of investors) we will be happy to be firm with the financial directors of the industries in question, we will happily admit a case.

Since they have not arrived at their conclusions sought, publicity for them would be reasonable to assume that they would not have intervened in a debate which would have the financial viability of companies and the livelihoods of millions they employ at stake. If they are unable to produce such evidence, and for it to be verified by reference to companies concerned, it can be concluded that intervention in this debate is merely technical, unimportant but also irresponsible.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. MERRITT and
ALAN SYKES.
9 Downs Road, Epsom.

Self-employed discrimination

From Mr L. O'B. Deacon

Sir, I should like to offer the strongest possible support to the letter made by Mr J. J. Gripper in his letter which appears in *The Times* (November 9).

The proposal to impose a levy of 8 per cent on the earned incomes of self-employed persons to the extent by which they exceed £1,500 and do not exceed £3,500 per annum without giving any compensation advantage is nothing more than a discriminatory tax aimed at a particular section of the community. It represents a further attack upon the already hard-pressed commercial and professional businesses which are in private ownership.

Little information appears to be available about this new imposition. Indeed, when a member of my staff telephoned for the second time, to our local

office of the Department of Health and Social Security to ask for an explanatory leaflet, she was told that they were still not available. My firm became aware of the position because of a leaflet issued to accountants by the Inland Revenue which deals with the computation of profits upon which the levy would be calculated. Is it not high time that the commercial and professional community as a whole was made aware of what is in store for it?

In conclusion, may I join Mr Gripper in urging every self-employed person affected by the proposal (which include many directors of family companies) to write both to their MP and to their trade or professional association.

L. O'B. DEACON,
23 Weymouth Court,
Gray's Inn,
London WC1R 5DW.

Risk-taking and assurance policies

From Mr J. Dover

Sir, I refer to the letter from Mr J. M. Macharg, General Manager of The Scottish Provident Institution (Business News, Oct 24), and write to say that both in my personal capacity as a policyholder in several major life assurance companies and as a chartered accountant, who is frequently asked for advice on life assurance matters, I heartily endorse his well expressed opinions.

There have been, and are still and always will be persons prepared to take higher risks of losses for potentially higher rewards; that is what capitalism is about. If higher rewards are received, will the recipients offer to share such higher rewards with the policyholders in the more conservative life companies? Obviously not, so why should the latter bear any losses these risk-takers may sustain?

The comment has been made that it is for the good of the life assurance movement as a whole that this should be done, but in my opinion there is inadequate justification for this comment. I do not advocate the granting of any assistance, but if it is to be granted let it be national assistance borne by the country as a whole and not by a particular group of persons who have exercised more caution in their financial affairs.

Without being too chauvinistic, I might point out that a large number of successful major life assurance companies are Scottish and therefore the opinions of officers of companies such as Mr Macharg's (with whom I have no connexion whatsoever) ought to be regarded highly.

Yours faithfully,
J. DOVER,
123 Hope Street, Glasgow.

Lack of interest in equal pay idea

From Mrs Barbara Dyer

Sir, In my work I am involved with all areas of industry and commerce, in both an advisory and training capacity. Over the past three years, particularly over the past few months, I have tried to arrange training courses and conferences to discuss the implications of equal pay and opportunity.

In view of the impending legislation on equal opportunity and the close proximity of the date of implementation of the Equal Pay Act, I am astounded at the lack of interest throughout the business world. I fully realize that there are other important (not more important) issues, but the attitude seems to be that "if we ignore it, it will go away".

When employers going to wake up to the fact that changes in policy with regard to the employment of women could be of great benefit to the company? Too often, women employees are seen as a stop-gap or temporary labour when, with a positive approach to appraisal and training, they would become useful employees within the organization.

Why the reluctance to admit that women are intelligent, responsible people who want to make a contribution to industry and not be seen as non-paying passengers?

BARBARA DYER,
The Industrial Society,
48 Bryanston Square,
London, W1.

Security of loans to companies

From Mr G. L. Newnham

Sir, In your paper (October 28) the Financial Editor devoted half his article to considering ways of weakening the security of loans made to large companies. The very successful large issue of ordinary shares by Commercial Union shows that there is ample ordinary capital available on reasonable terms.

If a company is in such a bad way that the shareholders will not put up fresh ordinary capital, then that is just the time when the trustees for the loanholders must insist on the trust deed being strictly observed or proper consideration being given for varying it.

"Proper compensation" in this context means increasing the coupon rate from 7 per cent to 17 per cent or perhaps the bondholders being given half the capital in a reconstruction.

G. L. NEWNHAM,
17 Barons Way,
Papworth Everard, Cambridge.

Contribution of job centres

From Miss S. C. Newton

Sir, May I correct the impression which seems to have been created in the mind of correspondent (November 9) with regard to the job programme of the Employment Service Agency?

Any possible increase in labour turnover resulting from the modernization of employment service can only be negligible (if it occurs at all) as other factors have a powerful influence on individual's decision to accept or refuse employment.

Job-satisfaction, qualifications, remuneration, work environment and the level of unemployment have a greater impact (individually and collectively) on the moves of employees, and the employer is likely to suffer by the deployment of his work force.

The contribution of the centre will be seen in the direction, rather than in the of the job-search and employed and unemployed workers.

This will be achieved through more attractive premises, improved service and a qualified staff which together will improve the matching of job-seekers and vacancies increasing the quantity and quality of information on labour market.

The resulting reduction in time taken to secure employment and the help to employers and employees to coordinate their requirements effectively will benefit not the parties immediately concerned but the nation as a whole.

To assist in increasing gross national product, hardly be called throwing spanners in the works, a metaphor might be priming pump.

Yours faithfully,
S. C. NEWTON,
The Employment Service,
7 St Martin's Place,
London, WC2.

Life cover

From Mr Ralph Steward

Sir, Mr Rogers should consider himself fortunate in having seven years and one month of cover for £10,000 plus bonus which he does not quote, still be able to retrieve 95 per cent of the premiums he paid. The extra four months' premiums he paid admittedly reduced his return to 93 per cent of the total premiums paid.

If we now complete the picture and take into the reckoning that Mr Rogers would probably have reduced his income tax bill by an amount of £650 (ie 15 per cent) he is better off in the analysis by £360 and has enjoyed free life cover in the bargain.

I would imagine that Mr Rogers's policy was of a considerably short term otherwise his position would have been less attractive.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH W. STEWARD,
28 Cuddington Avenue,
Worcester Park,
Surrey.

Woolworth switches account after 17 years

Woolworth, Britain's largest retail advertiser next to C & A Modes and the Co-op, has moved advertising agencies for the first time in 17 years. The move follows an extensive store modernisation and streamlining programme.

The Woolworth account, which last year billed £13m, leaves the big Masius Wynne-Williams and D'Arcy MacManus agency for a relatively small company, Allen, Brady & Marsh.

Masius officially relinquishes the business next February, but ABM has already started work on new advertising campaign proposals due to be introduced early next year.

Retailers' expenditure on advertising has been steadily

Advertising & marketing

growing over the past few years. Last year, the department and retail store sector (excluding supermarkets) spent a total of £23.5m on advertising, compared with about half that sum two years earlier.

Traditionally, however, many store groups, including C & A, handle their advertising direct without using an agency. Advertising experts consider the sector an important develop-

ment area for greater agency involvement.

Merger denied

The possibility of an imminent full-scale merger between the Osborne Group and Kimpher, two of the largest agency groups in the country, was denied by both sides yesterday.

Speculation about a prospective takeover stemmed from the acquisition last week by Osborne of a 20.9 per cent stake in Kimpher.

Mr John White, company secretary of Osborne, described the acquisition yesterday as "nothing more than an investment".

It is believed, however, that

Osborne also approached J. L. Morrison and Jones Holdings, which holds a 21 per cent stake in Kimpher.

With billings last year of more than £24m and a record of rapid acquisitions, Kimpher, a public company, ranks as one of the biggest agency groups in the United Kingdom. But profits have been dwindling.

Turnover in the year to March 31 rose to £25.89m compared with £23.2m previously. But profits during the same period fell from £379,000 to £362,000.

Osborne is a much smaller company, with billings last year of just over £11m, but it has a healthy profit record.

Patricia Tisdall

Who knows what you'll need from a merchant bank next?

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FINANCIAL NEWS

Standstill on staff recruitment in SE council's list of economies

By Terry Byland

Members of the Stock Exchange were told yesterday by the chairman, Mr. George Loveday, of moves by the Council of the Exchange to reduce expenditure. A standstill has been imposed on administrative staff recruitment. Technical expenses are being reduced and certain projected property expenditure has been revised in order to effect economies.

Mr. Loveday was speaking at an informal meeting of members, who heard that total income fell by £81,000 for the half year ending 28. The expenses of the Exchange are not directly governed by market conditions, but the interim figures show that the chief reason for the fall in income relates to initial charges for listing, which dropped by £279,000, reflecting the continued depression of the new issue market.

Mr. Loveday commented that of the three major sources of Exchange revenue—entrance fees, membership subscriptions and listing fees—the last named can "clearly be increased." But he added that there were alternative methods of increasing income other than by raising subscriptions.

The council were concerned at the number of failures among stock market firms during the past year, both for the damage these had done to the reputation of the Exchange and for the calls on members for the compensation fund.

Mr. Robert Fell, who on January 1 takes up his post as the first chief executive appointed by the Exchange, attended yesterday's meeting.

Questions by members disclosed that an interim report expected next week from McKissey, who is conducting a wide survey of Stock Exchange operations. The Council intends to consider whether or not to release it to members.

The suggestion of extending trading on the market floor after the present closing time of 3.30 pm was overwhelmingly opposed by members.

Attached to the figures is a pro-forma balance-sheet adjusted to reflect some property valuations made by independent valuers. This shows assets stated at 118p a share.

Keith's major shareholder, Welfare Insurance, now has new owners. It went from Edward Bates to London & Manchester Insurance and National Westminster Bank, who, market men say, could conceivably buy the company, which arranged long-term loans for development cheaply before the property crash.

But the shares closed at 20p yesterday, against a 1974 "high" of 72p and the yield is a low 5.8 per cent.

GUARDIAN INV
Net revenue before tax for half year to Sept 30 up from £781,000 to £827,000. Net asset value rose from £1.65 to £1.75. Dividend 25p (up from 20p) and 1.18p (up from 1.10p) net and from 1.57p to 1.77p gross. Earnings a share came out at 7.2p, against 5.3p.

All subsidiaries have increased turnover and profits during the half year and outstanding orders for home and overseas markets are only fractionally down at £19.8m from £20m recorded at March 31. This compares with £10.5m at September 1973.

HEENAN SPARK
Chairman told AGM that turnover will treble this year. Company should benefit from tax changes; stock appreciation proposals would save all tax bills due in January.

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Wide net asset disparity of Keith & Henderson

By Peter Wainwright

The Keith & Henderson woolen merchandising group which evolved into a property investment company, guided by merchant bankers N. M. Rothchild, yesterday reported a rise in pre-tax profit of £39,500 to £298,000 for the year to last May.

But this figure included a transfer from reserves representing spending on properties in course of completion of £187,000, against £13,000. The board explains that this procedure is justified by the progress of the developments which automatically enhances their worth.

Earnings a share rose from 1.6p to 2.1p, but the dividend is 1.25p gross again.

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Amey cloud hanging over Gold Fields

By Andrew Wilson

While facing difficulties in certain sectors, Mr. Donald McCall told shareholders at the annual meeting of Consolidated Gold Fields yesterday that he was not unduly pessimistic about the future. What largely affected the stock market reaction, however, was the warning that the Amey Roadstone interests faced another difficult year and the shares fell by 15p by the close to 230p.

Mr. McCall said that last year, Amey's net profits had dropped by 37 per cent to £3.4m. Now faced with a continuing squeeze on margins and lack of demand, the group was now having to curtail operations and reduce capital expenditure by 10 per cent.

On gold, he was more optimistic. Mr. McCall suggested that some of the oil surpluses could eventually find their way into the bullion market. Consequently, he regarded the South African investments as being among the most valuable in the group.

In answer to a question on the bid by the associated Gold Fields of South Africa for Union Corporation, Mr. McCall refused to be drawn, other than to say that he believed that it was in CGF's scheme has been introduced for the training of

Mr. Donald McCall, chairman of Consolidated Gold Fields. Oil surpluses could find their way into the bullion market.

African labour in the areas where the group operates and draws its labour as in most parts of Southern Africa are few well paid opportunities for the unskilled. Again, in answer to questions, Mr. McCall said he believed that companies could go too far in raising wages and job opportunity and training were of equal importance.

After achieving a bumper profit of £330,000 for the 15 months to September 30, 1973, Freshbake Foods Holdings moved into the red to the extent of £50,000 in the first half to March 31 last, and now produces an overall loss of £96,000 for the full year to September 30.

The board explain that the loss to a large extent was due to added costs incurred by the delayed completion of a new factory, the extension of the three-day week and "unprecedented" increases in the cost of raw materials—namely fat, flour and packaging.

No final dividend is being paid, so the year's total is 0.26p, against 0.91p.

Management reports indicate a return to profitability in the household textile division during 1975-76. All the other divisions of the group continue to trade at satisfactory levels but it looks as though the group will end 1974-75 well short of last year's record profit of £2.4m.

For the half year to August 31 H.A.T. Group, the specialist sub-contractors to the construction industry, has turned in substantial increased profits and turnover. For the full year ending next February the board are expecting the output to exceed last year's records.

Taxable profit at half year was £1m (against £827,000) and turnover bounded from £13m to £24m. Profit was up 200 per cent after tax of £375,000 (£337,000), the attributable emerges at £644,000, against £473,000.

The board have declared a second interim dividend of 0.69p and are hopeful of paying a final of not less than 1.17p, which would make the year's total dividend 1.55p.

They expect the full year's profits to exceed last year's peak of £2m, and add that there could be material benefits from the Budget.

A surplus over book value of about £13m is reported by Beaverbrook Newspapers on a revaluation of its properties as at June 30. The statement is part of the annual report.

Sir Max Aitken, the chairman, says the revaluation takes no account of the recent planning permission for the Evening Standard site—just over an acre is available for redevelopment in 1976. But he points out that in general, property values have fallen since the end of June when the revaluation was made.

On the company's prospects, Sir Max said the future deal will be easy and a great deal will depend on the national economic climate, but he sees "a patch of blue sky ahead." By 1976 the group will have reduced its printing centres to two from four, while having increased capacity.

In the full accounts provision has been made for a payment of £35,000 to a former director.

Taxable profits of Sumrie Clothes for the half-year to September 28 show a fall of 14 per cent.

Cableform makes control

Both shares put a national market capitalization on the new group of £3.3m.

Under the scheme holders of AFH would receive 60.9 per cent of the shares in the merger company, and Linnell members 39.1 per cent. The new board would be headed by Lord Kissin, chairman of Linnell.

Guinness Peat Group, which owns 34.45 per cent of AFH shares and 62.24 per cent of Linnell, intends to accept the proposals are conditional on no monopolies reference.

Stock markets

Gold shares in sharp retreat

A heavy fall in the gold share section provided the chief feature of yesterday's stock market. United Kingdom equities managed a technical recovery after the setback of the previous session, but could not hold their best prices. The FT index closed 2.5 up at 1762, while The Times index at 69.00 was 0.34 higher.

Gold shares opened with substantial losses, ranging to £2 in the higher-priced shares, with the market unsettled by fears that Wall Street's overnight fall would bring United States selling of gold shares on the London market. Attempted rallies during the day proved unsuccessful, against a background of lower bullion prices. But when Wall Street opened on a steadier note and American selling of gold shares in London proved lighter than expected, some recovery was seen in share prices.

Vaal Reef, finally £12 down at £291, had touched £291 earlier, while FS Geduld, £11 down at £24, had seen £231. Other weak spots included Western Holdings £2 down at £32, and Western Areas, 25p off at £50p.

Prominent in a batch of special features on the mining pitches were shares in Union Corporation, which dipped to £22 on profit-taking, only to soar to 47.5p later, a net gain of 23p, with the market convinced that General Mining was a buyer of the shares.

And, still on the mining section, Lonrho shares jumped to 75p following news that the ruler of Kuwait and his family would subscribe to a large issue of new shares, but later drifted back to 72½p, a net 2½p up.

Disclosure at the annual meeting of difficult trading at Amey Roadstone subsidiary, which had a net loss of £96,000 for the full year to September 30.

Reorganization of the household textile division of Rexmore, Liverpool-based converters of textiles and pvc products, has been the main cause of a 58 per cent decline in first-half profits.

In the six months to September 30 taxable profits fell from £1.13m to £718,000, although turnover was up from £15.38m to £16.9m. Earnings a share came back from 6.36p to 3.68p, but the interim dividend is being lifted slightly from 1.57p to 1.64p.

Management reports indicate a return to profitability in the household textile division during 1975-76. All the other divisions of the group continue to trade at satisfactory levels but it looks as though the group will end 1974-75 well short of last year's record profit of £2.4m.

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United Kingdom industrial remained overshadowed by the outcome of the miner's ballot on the National Coal Board's productivity plan. Share prices opened with a rush upwards as bearishness came in for stock. But the rush was over quickly and prices shed much of the gains only to move higher again as the close when Wall Street looked steady.

ICI finally only 1p higher at 133p had touched 135p earlier, while Beecham, 2p up at 130p had touched 131p, and Glaxo 6p up at 210p had touched 212p. At 59p, Courtaulds was a good spot.

Oil shares traded cautiously, fearful both on Wall Street considerations, and also on the domestic front, where the prospect of publication of the Government's offshore oil tax Bill discouraged investors. But the Bill brought no new errors, and shares in BP, 2p off at 232p, had reacted by only 4p from the best level of the day. Ultramar (54p) looked firm.

Heavy engineers rested tent with minor gains, struggling to hold early GKN (126p), BLMC (8p) Metal Box (135p) closed a penny to the good in small over.

Shipbuilders ran into a of profit-taking as the pre-Budget speculation out, disappointed at lack statement on national terms from the Government. Swan Hunter fell to 78p, a good interim result, but then up to 85p, a net gain.

Consumer stocks held but saw rather less of the closers than the rest of market. Associated Food to 56p on the plan to with Thos Linnell, whose close was easier at 58p. "A" improved to 60p. British Home Stores (155p) Mathercare (115p) were.

Financial issues steady, their recent uncertainty, firm spot was Middlesbrough up at 120p after Friday's that a rights issue is planned.

Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies.

Company (and par values) Ord div Year ago Pay date Total

Cableform Gp (5p) Fin Nil 28/2 Nil 0.0

Canning Town Glass (25p) Int 0.65 23/12 1.2

CNA Inv (50c) Int 7.5 23/12 1.2

Dupont (55) 150p 2004 14/12 72p 0.7

Freshbake Foods (5p) Fin Nil 0.65 27/1 0.26

General International (1p) Int 1.57 27/1 1.57

HAT Group (10p) Int 0.69 1/4 1.55

Keith & Henderson (5p) 1.25 2/1 1.25

Leopold Joseph (11p) Int 2.00 2/1 4.04

Nth American (25p) Fin 1.64 1/5 1.01

Rubislaw Inv (25p) Fin 3 2/5 23/12 4.11

Swan Hunter (11p) Int 4.15 3/3 31/12 7.7

Sumrie Clothes (20p) Int 1.78 1/4 1.01

Ultramar (54p) Int 2.1 0.93 30/12 0.57

Adjusted for scrip. * Cents a share. † Correction. ‡ Forecast. †† months

equipment for the operated vehicle market proceeds from the sale. Fluvent side are being a repay bank borrowings and to finance further expansion of form. The board say the new group will be a follow a progressive policy.

After last year in the rum when it incurred a loss of £100,000, C. Town Glass Works has a smart recovery. In the to June 30 the group's pre-tax profit of £32,000 pared with a loss at last year of £41,000. The dividend is 0.65p against

With the increased resulting from the (the) programme the directors further progress to be in the second half in re profitability.

Lord Brayley, former man of the group, resign Army Minister in Sept after the Department of announced an investigation the company.

Rising cotton import worry Shiloh

The half year figure, October 5 of Shiloh Sp, show that taxable profits from £104,000 to £160,000. Import conditions are still say, but the board add that demand which makes the look for the second half tain.

They also give a warning steep rise in imports of c yarn. This, they say, is u mining the confidence and stature of the United King spinning industry

Leyland SA lower

On sales down from 89 to 89.7m, profits of 89.7m, the subsidiary Ley South Africa, are down 1.4p to 2.12m. After tax, and from 1.91m to 1.99m net.

Linrad cautious

In his annual statement, A. H. Linnell, chairman of of manufacturers of c food fasteners, said the sent and immediate future p cents for profitability in United Kingdom were low by the cash flow and liquid problems of the industry last year.

In the absence of a d understanding of how Government proposed to f its part in dealing with th problems, Mr Linnell said it impossible to forecast w results might be expected year from United King operations.

Overseas prospects, however continued to appear favour As is known, group turnover the 52 weeks to July 27 r £7.3m (£5.9m). Pre-tax pr was £579,000 (£582,000).

Price bid huddle

The offer of \$18 a share f Price Co from Abitibi Pap was yesterday extended for hours until today. The boards on Monday advised sh holders who wished to disp of their shares to seek the be price on the market. It co sidered the price offer itself to be too low in the light of the true value of the shares. B directors were still discussing

Arbuthnot Latham

Total assets were £72.6m September 30 (against £85.2m March). While loans etc were £15.8m (£20.5m) and balance sheet £56.8m (£64.7m). Current assets etc are £51.6m (£64.4m). This corrects yesterday's item

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Arbuthnot Latham



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leasting
for everybody. That absorbing series, Disappearing World, penetrates Grosse for one of its tribal studies (ITV 9.0). There is George Sanders film (BBC1 6.55) or George Hamilton IV with folk and country music (0). There is sport aplenty with sand yachting (BBC2 7.45), racing and BBC1 9.55) and international soccer (ITV 10.45) as well as a lesson in (BBC1 11.38). And if you are only a tap-the-barometer man there is even time to confirm your fears about our changing weather (BBC2 9.0)...L.B.

BBC 2
11.00-11.25 am, Play School.
11.25-11.50 am, Representing the Community.
11.50-12.00 pm, Newsday with Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of Fiat (from Turin).
12.00-12.15 pm, George Hamilton IV.
12.15-12.30 pm, The Weather Machine.
12.30-12.45 pm, Newsday with Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of Fiat (from Turin).
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4.45-5.00 pm, Newsday with Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of Fiat (from Turin).
5.00-5.15 pm,

a Special Report on the regions from Abruzzi to Sicily and Sardinia

Southern Italy

مكتبة من الأصل



Workers at a Taranto factory. Right: Sicilians with the nets used for tunny fishing. Millions have left the South but its complaints of exploitation by the North are not altogether convincing.

Unity without uniformity from the time of the conquering Normans

Kingdom from the time the Normans took Sicily from the Arabs in 1061 and so on, on one's immediate. The air in texture, the roads are sharper, the cities are more uniform. But it would be a mistake to suppose that political history followed by a common economic and social problem should have imposed uniformity on this unity. The old Kingdom of Sicily, which, with the addition of Sardinia, is born, but none the less, had its two poles in the united Naples and Palermo, which even now waste little affection on each other. Between them are regions as much unlike each other as Puglia, with its claims to possess a Greek openness towards the world, and Calabria, with its constantly conspiratorial air. Calabrians, it is said, do their best to conceal from onlookers such simple acts as ordering a cup of coffee or lighting a cigarette. Sicilians and Sardinians are both islanders but there the comparison ends. Sicily is an amalgam of civilizations; if for no other reason it would be unique as the point at which Islam and the Normans met and produced buildings which are a combination of the extremes of those two worlds, which Italy bridges, the Mediterranean and the West. The Sicilians are great absorbers. The Sardinians are the great rejectors. The real Sardinia is not its famous coasts; it is the interior where the mountains, the pastoral economy and the fierce instinct of self-preservation have enabled a whole community to remain apart from almost any development in European civilization: they have managed largely to escape the net. The South claims to have been ruined by the North and that the exploitation which began with unity is still going on. There is a constant recital of why the difference between North and South increases instead of decreases. The North was the nat-

the censuses of 1961 and 1971 only in Campania, Puglia and Sardinia, out of the eight southern regions, did the total of births exceed the total emigration. Emigration has helped the process of splintering what used to be the monolithic problem of the South. All northern industrial cities now have their local southern problem, how to deal with the immigrants, most of them former farm labourers, who moved northward to find work. This problem used to be a matter of housing, of schooling, of the provision of social services, of relations between individuals from two different backgrounds. With unemployment increasing, the problem will now much less of a south-

ern problem and much more of a national problem, and of which the South is just a part. In that sense, the South may arguably be seen to have been downgraded. In another sense, the South has had a revenge of a bitter-sweet quality. Italy's essential political decision after the war was that the country should follow its destiny north of the Alps. It resolved that it belonged to the industrial societies of Western Europe and would do well to shake off the Mediterranean aspects in its character. These were seen to be tainted with the fatalism of belonging to the past glories of ancient civilizations, the lethargy that this entails, and the authoritarian style in politics. For so long after the war, Italy, with the exception of Israel and Malta, was the one wholly Mediterranean country, speaking in terms of seaboards, with a functioning parliamentary democracy. Now the real crisis in representative democracy is being felt by Western Europe and democracy has started to reassert itself in a striking way in the Mediterranean. Whatever one may think of Portugal's new regime, of the successors of the Greek colonels, of the coming changes in Spain, or of what will happen shortly in Yugoslavia, there can be no doubt that the Mediterranean is now far more interesting as a political crucible than is the North, and southern Italy is at the centre of those events.

Montedison and the Mezzogiorno

Our country," says Pasquale Saraceno, the "ther" of Italian economic planning, "cannot call it economically developed until the rate of growth in the South equals, or approaches, that of the North."

problem of the development of southern Italy is age-old one—partly because it was neglected for years after the unification of Italy in 1861, the then regions were generally left to their own devices. An idea of the backwardness of southern Italy is given by Christopher Seton-Watson in his book *From Liberalism to Fascism*. While in 1911 less than one per cent of the population of Genoa, Florence or Naples lived in a single room, the figure for Calabria was 42 per cent (with an average of 4.7 people per room), and for Foggia 70.6 per cent (6 people per room). "Illiteracy, too, increased drastically as one went from North to South. In 1911," reports Seton-Watson, "it was 11 per cent in Piedmont, 37 per cent in Sicily, 54 per cent in Campania, 65 per cent in Calabria and 70 per cent in Calabria."

is from dramatic conditions such as these that can begin to understand the difficulties of drawing "two Italies" together. The job has been attempted in two stages, essentially. The first, through creation of infrastructures: roads, railways, schools and land reclamation. Then through the promotion of productive activities, by encouraging industries to set up in the South. The first stage (which is yet completed) almost monopolised government attention, throughout the fifties. From then on, it became easier (and easier) to step up the creation of new industries. The policy of offering direct industrial incentives was more determined, and, with some justified exception, the northern Italian industries began to move south, the creation of new jobs in the Mezzogiorno. It was the large industries, mainly, that moved. Among the first were Montedison, IRI and more recently Fiat.

Montedison group's expansion in the South came to a halt, punctuated by the war, and by reconstruction period that followed it. But by the half of the fifties a new fertiliser plant was built at Empedocle (Sicily), and a synthetic fibre plant was built at Casoria (Campania) by a subsidiary company, which is now part of Montedison.

the second half of the fifties, the group's activities in the Mezzogiorno extended to the petrochemical sector with the construction of the two industrial complexes at Priolo (Sicily), and at Brindisi (Apulia). The long, petrochemicals became the major group in the South. Today, the colossal Montedison works at Priolo and at Brindisi are two of the largest industrial sites in all of the Mezzogiorno. The range of Montedison activities is vast, but is primarily in the petrochemicals and synthetic sectors. The large supermarket chain belonging to a Snam subsidiary should be included on the list of the large number of jobs it creates, and recent of the modernisation it has brought to the fuel system. In all, group assets in the South up to £565 million. They provide 26,000 people jobs directly, of which 6,000 are in retailing. The creation of new jobs by Montedison in the Mezzogiorno does not stop here. The group's huge

investments have created, and continue to create, many thousands of new jobs that cannot be found on the Montedison payroll.

It is difficult to give precise figures. However, some idea of the extra-payroll employment created by Montedison is given by the 2,000 workers at the Priolo complex, and some 700-800 at Brindisi, who for ten years have been engaged in plant construction expansion and transportation work.

In spite of that, at the Montedison head office in the avenue Foro Buonaparte in central Milan, it is pointed out that the large investment programme in the Mezzogiorno is far from concluded.

Most new Montedison development in Italy is planned for the South. The balance will be devoted to the expansions already planned for plant located in the North, where investment is necessary to prevent plants from becoming obsolete.

In its plans for the period 1974-78, the Montedison group has destined more than £825 million for just chemical investment in the South. This is more than 50 per cent of all Montedison's planned chemical investments in Italy in that period. To this must then be added the investments planned for the fibres industry, of which £125 million will be spent for the Acerra (Campania) plant alone.

The plant that will grow from these investments. Montedison emphasises, will be based on advanced technology to make it economically competitive on European, and world markets. Montedison group management categorically refuses to locate low technology plant in the South merely to net state funds or to increase employment. Such a policy, which was understandable, but not justifiable in the fifties, has no excuse today, since, even from the employment standpoint, non-competitive activities would prove precarious in the long run.

The productive structure that is formed will centre on the petrochemical complexes at Priolo and at Brindisi where new advanced plants will be built and employment levels will be appreciably increased. At Crotone (Calabria), new investments will make the industrial complex there the major inorganic chemicals site within the group. In addition to increasing the size of the plant at Bussi (Abruzzi), new plant will be built to produce sodium peroxide and sodium metasilicate. Up-to-date plant for the production of paint resins is planned for Casoria (Campania). At Acerra (Campania), polyester yarn and staple will be produced using very advanced technology. Finally, in Sardinia, in the Tiroso Valley at Ottana, a new complex for the production of polyester fibres, related chemical intermediates, and acrylic fibres is being brought on stream. It is being built as a joint venture between the Montedison group, and the Italian state hydrocarbons company ENI, under a government programme to industrialise central Sardinia.

GUY BLACK

NEW PRODUCTION UNITS AT . . .

- PRIOLO**
 - Intermediates for plastics and fibres.
 - Polyethylene I. d.
- BRINDISI**
 - Dichloroethane
 - Chlorine-soda
 - Engineering plastics
 - Polypropylene
- CROTONE**
 - Phosphorous derivatives
 - Chlorofluorohydrocarbons
 - Inorganic pigments

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This sense of having been exploited is not totally convincing. The South has a grossly disproportionate hand on the political and administrative structure of the country. Most civil servants come from the South, as do the police and the Carabinieri. The President is Neapolitan; so was the first President after the republic was declared, and one of the remaining three was a Sardinian.

The Socialists are led by a Neapolitan, the Republicans by a Sicilian, the Communists by a Sardinian. The greatest of postwar trade unionists, Di Vittorio, came from Apulia. The head of IRI, the state holding company, is Signor Giuseppe Petrilli, a Neapolitan. Economic policy has been for many years in the hands of Signor Emilio Colombo, who comes from Lucania, and the most respected of Christian Democratic Prime Ministers after De Gasperi, Signor Aldo Moro, is from Bari.

Looked at from the other end of the scale, the South is the preserve of the governing Christian Democrats to the extent that they control all the regional administrations in the old Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. No one would doubt that the principal governing party has had a huge advantage in being able to control a large part of the money which has poured southward since 1950.

Cynics also say that depression brings votes for the dominant party. At the same time, depression makes away with the more vigorous southerners who are forced to choose emigration if they want a more promising future. Between

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ARE YOU MISSING OUT ON THE MEZZOGIORNO?

Choosing the right location for expansion is a major test of a businessman's ability — assuming, of course, that he has the information he needs. If he doesn't, even the most able man may overlook the best site. If you are planning to expand industrial or tourist activities in Europe, for instance, it might make a difference to know that in Italy's MEZZOGIORNO you won't have to recruit foreign labour. There is plenty available on the spot, so why not employ our workers at home where they are more content and it's cheaper for you rather than, as is likely, elsewhere in Europe? Odds are also that it wouldn't be irrelevant to know that in the MEZZOGIORNO you won't have to put up with short, chilly and rainy days filled with fog or smog. Our sun isn't shy about shining. The MEZZOGIORNO is right where both Europe, East and West, meet the Mediterranean, and can offer substantial incentives — a ten-year exemption from corporate income taxes, for example, or soft loans and cash grants up to 85% of your fixed investment costs. So why not get all the information you may need on the MEZZOGIORNO as a possible location. It's free, has no strings attached, and, if you desire, will be given on a strictly confidential basis by



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Power of political bosses under attack

By Percy Allum

In southern Italy industrialization is still only a mirage in the minds of certain politicians, and the extension of the suffrage long preceded economic development. It is still largely a society dominated by the lack of its own economic resources, and in such societies the chief source of wealth is the state treasury. Access to the state treasury is the key to political power: jobs, homes, schools, hospitals, everything is dependent on the politicians' patronage. In Britain, on the other hand, the state was just one among several providers of resources. The businessman was more important than the politician as a source of employment or services.

Southern Italy was beset with two further conditions which favoured the persistence of a clientelism system as the basis of its politics. The first was overpopulation. Clientelism thrives in non-industrial urban societies which are composed of a mass of marginal groups that do not form a class-conscious proletariat. It is among the big city poor, among those precariously and partly employed, the depressed artisans and shopkeepers, that the politician-cum-boss, or boss as he is now more properly called, recruits supporters in need of a protector. In general, these groups are a mass of individuals incapable of organizing themselves politically; hence it is relatively easy for the boss to organize them into a political machine.

The second condition is a centralized political system, that is, one in which all decisions are determined in one place by one institution or group of institutions, for instance, Rome. The power of the political machine is based on the ability of the boss to obtain economic favours and advantages for his members and their supporters. The power of the politicians derives from the local distribution of national resources. It follows that if there is only one source of national resources, the politician who controls or effectively monopolizes the local distribution is the local boss.

The important thing to realize for understanding the political consequences of the persistence of clientelism in the South is that it is not a casual phenomenon. It is the direct consequence of the specific kind of economic and political development that Italy has pursued since the war. Moreover, this means necessarily that it is qualitatively different from the clientelism of the pre-fascist period, and hence that it is one of the roots of the country's present crisis.

Postwar reconstruction in Italy was dominated by the Cold War. Using Marshall Aid, the advanced sectors of Italian industry (export based and car production) were streamlined and modern processes and plants introduced into the factories. An export-led growth mechanism was set in motion which produced the "economic miracle" of 1958-62, but its motor was low wages. It was high pro-

fits accruing from low wages which stimulated the high investment necessary to give rise to high productivity that ensured growth in the North and kept Italy internationally competitive in those years. Moreover, the northern workers benefited from the growth in prosperity only slowly.

Such a divisive policy would have destroyed the political system if the Christian Democrats and their allies had not been able to muster the support of all the other sections of Italian society. Common political ground was achieved by mobilizing the middle classes and forging them into a peripheral power block. The South had pride of place in this block.

Given the size of the problem, the resources needed, and the interest involved, the Government had no serious intention of attacking what was called the "southern question" at its roots. But it was forced to do something, if only because the crisis of the old industrialization was initiated after 1957, but it was really intended to subdivide the South into a number of areas of industrial development and leave the rest to stagnate.

In any event the success of even this policy required, as did the new economic strategy, that the advanced sector of industry was prepared to adopt a new model of economic development, one in which a higher proportion of the national resources was devoted to productive activity.

It needed a government committed to a comprehensive programme of reforms in housing, health, education, the Civil Service and planned investment in the South to eliminate the parasitic waste of the service sector. The centre-left coalition of the early 1960s was so committed, and thus enjoyed the support of the major groups in Italian society (big business, reformist politicians, including the Communist Party, and trade unions).

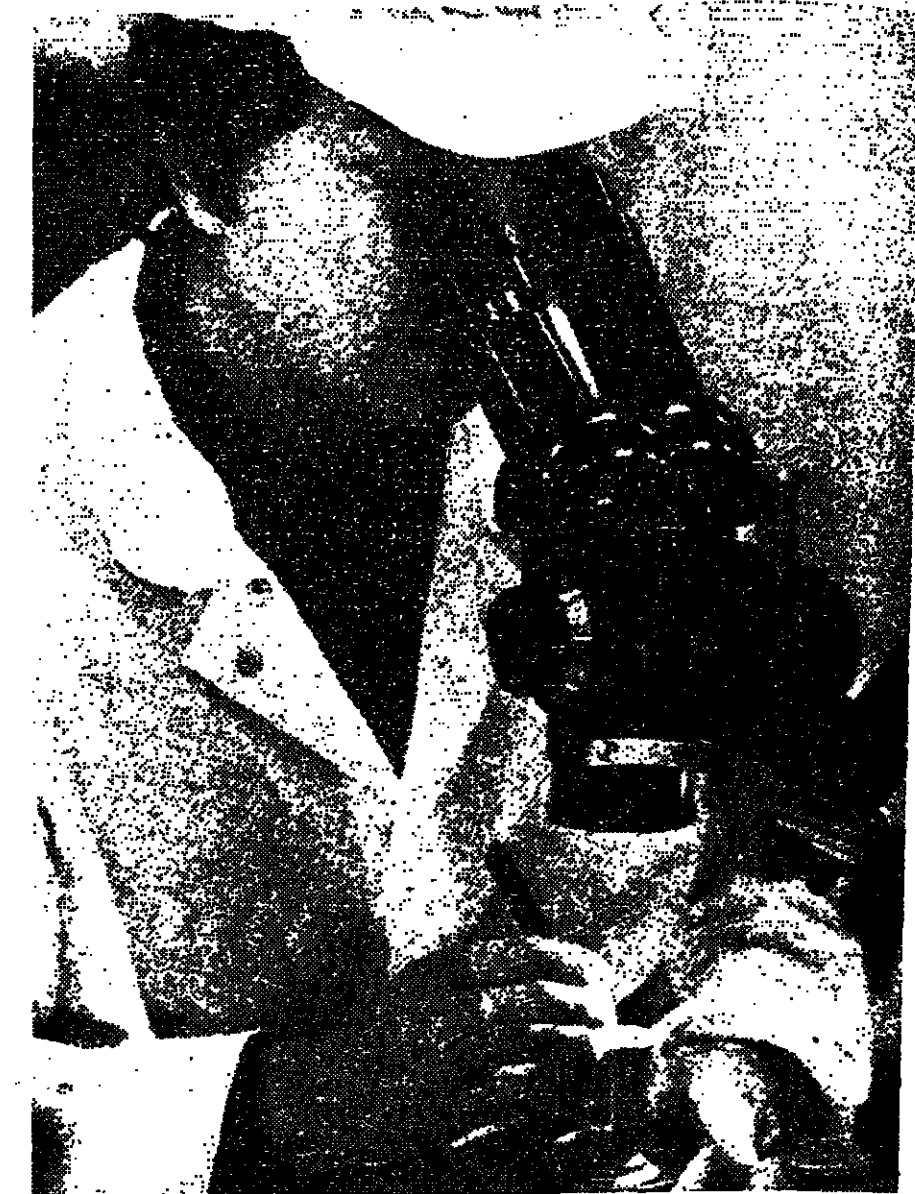
Yet it failed because the veno power of the middle class, peripheral power block, entrenched in the all-powerful parliamentary standing committee, the ministries and many parastate agencies, and supported by its clientele, were too strong for the government coalition. To carry through the reforms meant the government parties attacking their own power bases, and in destroying them they would have destroyed their own power. The governing parties were given a hint of what was likely to happen in the riots of Reggio, Calabria, in 1970-71.

Italian politics since 1969 has oscillated between these two poles: reformist intentions fuelling neo-fascist terrorism in the defence of the parasitic middle class privileges, and clientelism immobility to reassure the middle classes provoking a militant trade union response. The divorce referendum was the most recent attempt to demonstrate the power of the peripheral power block. Society in Postwar Naples (CUP) and Italy: Republic brought the confrontation to a head.

The choice facing the new Government is between subverting to a recession in the fight against inflation, by squeezing the working class, first in employment and then in wages; and defending productive activity (investment and employment) at the expense of inflation and cutting off the clientele. The latter option is the one the Socialist Party has been vigorously pushing since the referendum and accounts for the violent clash with the Social Democrats which brought down the fifth Rumor Cabinet.

In the unlikely event of the latter policy prevailing, the peripheral power block that has maintained the power and the party system immobile for 30 years will be in grave danger of breaking up. It requires a change of policy to one that ensures that the sacrifices demanded by the present crisis are really made equitably. But should it be made, and the peripheral power block start falling apart, then, and only then, would a serious development policy for the South become a real possibility for the first time in its history.

The author is Reader in Politics at the University of Reading and a member of the Centre for the Advanced Study of Italian Society. His most recent publications are *Politics and Society in Postwar Naples* (CUP) and *Italy: Republic without Government?* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson).



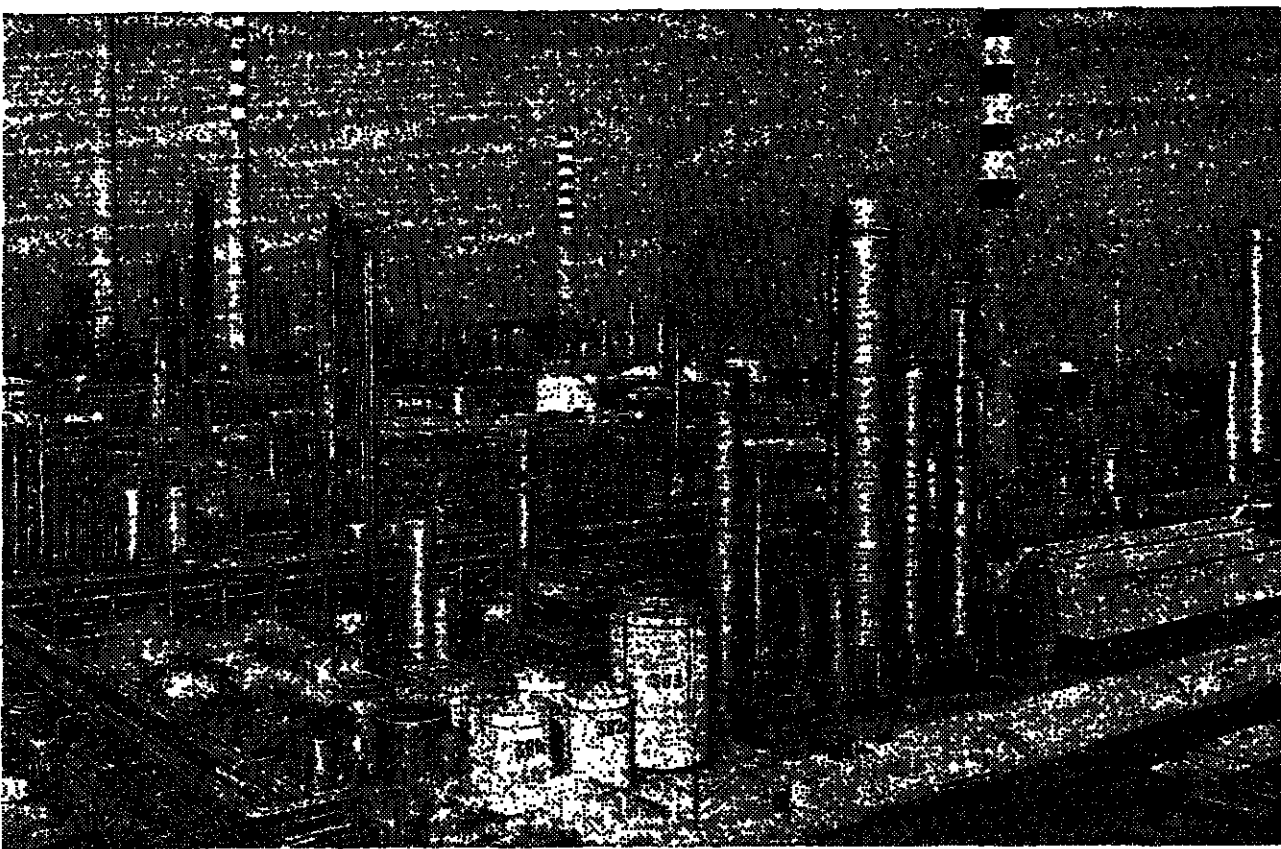
A worker in Palermo, Sicily. The island has had its share of industrial development and a new aluminium plant is planned.

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What is normal-paraffin and how important is it? N-paraffin is a hydrocarbon derivative which can be processed to produce N-olefin and linear dodecylbenzole for fully biodegradable detergents. With its industrial plant designed to the optimum scale and employing the ISOSIV process, developed by Union Carbide to guarantee an extremely high degree of purity (99.5%), LIQUICHIMICA is paving the way for new and valuable uses of chemicals in biochemistry and other fields. It has implemented national economic policy for the development of Southern Italy by building the largest N-paraffin plant in the world in Sicily. In addition to an annual output of 650,000 metric tons of N-paraffin, equivalent to 40% of world production, the plant produces linear dodecylbenzole, N-olefin and higher alcohols. Augusta, in the province of Siracusa, was selected as the location because of its focal position in the Mediterranean—a position that has become even more strategic now that the Suez Canal has been re-opened and lines of communication are being established with markets in the Middle East.

An additional reason for the choice of Augusta was that it already had its own infrastructure (including a port equipped to handle petroleum products) and is close to the refineries. (In conjunction with SARP, Montedison and ANIC, LIQUICHIMICA has now formed SICET, a company which will work on steam-cracking on a consortium basis to produce ethylene in Sicily.)



LIQUICHIMICA has almost completed another major industrial complex, the first of its kind in the world, at Saline di Montebello. Using N-paraffin supplied directly from the Augusta plant as its feedstock, it will produce bio-proteins on an industrial scale (up to 100,000 tons a year), as well as amino-acids (10,000 tons), citric acid (50,000 tons) and fatty acids (100,000 tons). The bio-proteins and amino-acids will be used as animal feed additives to replace fish or soya meal, too little of which is being produced even now to meet world needs.

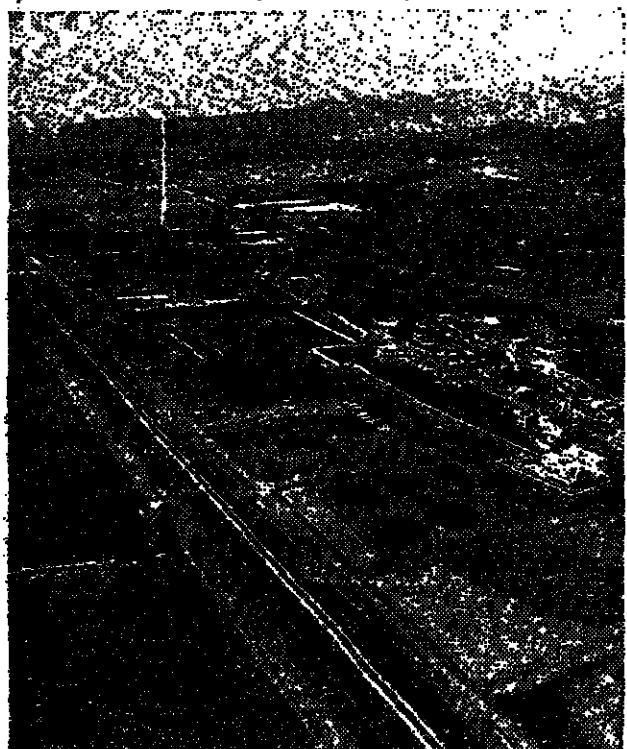
LIQUICHIMICA has founded UNILQ, a company in which Union Carbide has a majority holding. This will establish a factory in Reggio Calabria producing molecular screens for the chemical and petrochemical industry. LIQUICHIMICA is also active in Lucania, with plants at Ferrandina manufacturing polyvinyl chloride, methanol, caustic soda and gases for specialist technical uses. Lucania has also been chosen by LIQUICHIMICA as the area in which it is to embark upon its most massive investment project (L.700,000 million). A group of factories is to be built, in several phases, operating in the bio-chemical and refined chemical sectors to produce enzymes, amino-acids, organic and nucleic acids, engineering, textile and plastic industry ancillary products, lubricating oil additives, etc.

As part of its planned development, especially in the bio-chemical field, LIQUICHIMICA has entered into substantial commitments in research. Acting jointly with CTIP of the McKee & Co. Group, it has set up a bio-chemical nutrition research centre—CEBIN—at Villa San Giovanni which is to develop bio-chemical products that can be used as food and which will conduct toxicological, pharmacological and bio-engineering research. All the work on which LIQUICHIMICA has embarked has been carefully planned in the light of specific, clear-cut decisions. Its activities are not restricted to the South of Italy, just as the LIQUIGAS group has not confined itself to chemicals in its current work and expansion. Its consistent aim is coordination: its petroleum, zootechnical and household product operations are integrated inside and outside Italy.

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Top: partial view of the plant at Augusta.

Above: aerial view of the factory now being built at Saline.

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Mezzogiorno sees industrial progress—of a kind

by John Earle

"A mass of swindles, misgovernment and parasitism, all organized into a system." A few days ago Signor Giorgio Amendola, of the Communist Party leadership, recalled that he used these words to describe the official incentives provided when the Government's Cassa per il Mezzogiorno or southern development fund was set up. He added that time had proved him right.

His is one side in the ceaseless debate that should come to a head next year, the twenty-fifth birthday of the Cassa, on whether the gap between the underdeveloped Mezzogiorno and the industrialized North has really been reduced.

Many arguments heard on one side or the other are beside the point, as the North cannot be made to mark time just to let the South catch up. The Mezzogiorno's industrial progress, however, is there for all to see. The question to be asked, rather, is whether it has been the right kind of progress.

Signor Amendola's strictures are not only voiced by communists. The criticism is made that too much Mezzogiorno development has been linked to the less reputable side of public life, to local politicians' desires to reward voters with a factory, road or other public work, and to the chance offered to outside entrepreneurs to make a quick million out of official incentives.

The most criticized party is the Christian Democrat Party, but the smaller ones are by no means immune in places where their influence is strong. The public sector has been the weapon for the Government's policy, through official incentives or through initiatives by the state-owned corporations.

Another school of thought defends the record, while admitting that there have been cases of mismanagement and misjudgment, and that the Mezzogiorno is still far from being out of the present recession.

The first years of the Cassa were largely devoted to providing modern infrastructure in the form of a communications network, water, electricity and so on. Then the emphasis moved to industrialization, in which the state-owned corporations had to take the lead. This policy provoked the "cathedrals in the desert" controversy, in which the state was accused of setting up giant plants which failed to attract round them the desired medium and small industries.

But, these people argue, 20 or 30 years is not a long time in the history of a country's development. The first signs are appearing that private industry is beginning to benefit from the presence of the cathedrals in the desert. Such is the case with the Taranto Steelworks and the Alfa Sud car plant near Naples, both belonging to the state-owned Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale.

Signor Vincenzo Giustino, responsible for Mezzogiorno problems at Confindustria, the private industrialists' confederation, provides an example of this himself. A 42-year-old entrepreneur, he has a construction firm in Naples, which carried out building work on the Alfa Sud plant.

The trouble, he says, used to be that the paternal companies would buy or sub-contract to other parastatal or northern companies, thus setting up a closed cir-

cuit from which the Mezzogiorno economy was excluded. This is beginning to be remedied. In the Naples area he has set up an organization called Cesvitec to promote contacts between the large state company and smaller private industrialists. He is typical of many industrialists, particularly younger ones, who take a positive view of the state's pioneering role in the South.

Not that the big private companies are absent from the Mezzogiorno, Montedison (chemicals), Olivetti (office equipment), Societa Italiana Resine (petrochemicals), Pirelli (rubber and cables) and, more recently, Fiat (cars and machinery) are among many well-known names with plant there. But the pace-makers have usually been the state-owned corporations.

Besides Taranto Steelworks and Alfa Sud, it is worth mentioning ENI's chemical plants at Gela, in Sicily, and Pisticci, in Basilicata, IRI's new aeronautics plant near Foggia in Apulia (jointly owned with Fiat) and its planned steelworks at Gioia Tauro, in Calabria. EFIN's plans for mass production and for a second aluminium plant in Sicily after one in Sardinia, and EGAM's commitment to a specialized steel plant in Calabria. The Ministry for State Industry is particularly keen to promote further development in electronics, aeronautics and electrical and nuclear power equipment.

According to the annual report to Parliament by the Ministry, the public corporations under its control, which exclude bodies such as the railways and electricity boards, are investing some 6,000,000 lire (about £4,000m) in the Mezzogiorno from 1973-77—equivalent to 51.7 per cent of all their capital investment. These corporations employed, at the end of 1973, 168,100 people in the Mezzogiorno, out of 596,900 in Italy. These figures should rise at the end of 1977 to 246,200 and 717,900 respectively.

The Government is understandably anxious to attract foreign as well as domestic capital investment to the Mezzogiorno. It has found an old remedy an old malady whereby entrepreneurs outside the Mezzogiorno would pocket the assistance, then their new companies times even before into production.

More reputable lists have found out in Mezzogiorno sometimes to the Official bureaucracy painfully slow in decision. Promises of electricity or other are not always time. In general it has been a lack of overall planning, the now made responsible limited number of or inter-regional leaving the regional governments to decide aspects of their own development.

Financial facilities also deficient. Banks charge about 2 p higher interest rates grounds that a substantial guarantees than a northern 300,000m lire (£200zogiorno finance core envisaged under a October, 1971, to tal cipations in new has yet to get ground.

On the other hand Mezzogiorno has at if no longer cheap power, and lies gally near the ex markets of the Middle East. Its depends to a great on the Government's to ensure economic throughout the c Otherwise, instead o having a Cassa per il giorno, Europe m saddled with a Cas l'Italia.

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Petrochemicals promise new benefits

Mezzogiorno is on the hold of a series of new openings affecting petrochemicals, which have been up into one of its main tries despite controversy about the real benefits for population.

One of the developments in the way to becoming a such as the bold project for a 1,530-mile-long pipeline which will bring gas from Algeria to the Mediterranean and thence across the Strait of Messina up the Italian coast to near La Spezia in Liguria.

Others, while favourable in themselves, are less easy to see, such as the forthcoming opening of the Suez Canal with an oil pipeline from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean. Much of the political situation in the eastern Mediterranean area and whether it is to be further Arabised.

The Mezzogiorno, too, depends on the political situation at home. Italian governments launch petrochemical and chemical but the gap is wide in word and deed, be it formulation and implementation. Coalitions are weak and pusillanimous while the leaders of private and state-owned industry usually know what they want and find ways of getting it.

The whole outlook is more usually obscured by the balance of payments. The oil deficit is the negative item, but it is to be reduced to 75 per cent of oil energy needs.

Western Europe's oil refiner. Annual capacity authorized by Government amounts to 3,500,000 tons, and at the end of 1973 the capacity was 188,500,000 tons. The quantity actually used during the year 1973 was 30 million tons. Of this 11 million tons of refined oil were exported, leaving some foreign earnings, but the balance of payments burden is heavy.

One of the plant has been in the Mezzogiorno. From the handsome incentives for investment in the South, the



Montecatini Edison petrochemical works at Brindisi.

reasons for doing so seemed sound enough. Not only did this relieve congestion in the North but before 1967, while the Suez Canal was still open, coastal sites in the Mezzogiorno were geographically well placed between the sources of Middle East crude oil and the market for refined products in Western Europe. Refineries are owned by the main oil companies, by big chemical concerns like Montedison, and by private industrialists such as Signor Attilio Monti and Signor Angelo Moratti.

Most of the main firms are going ahead with plans either for new ventures or expansion of existing plant. They are meant to fit in with government policies, which under the national petroleum plan give prime responsibility to the state-owned hydrocarbons corporation ENI for ensuring national energy supplies.

The government priorities, as outlined in this year's report to Parliament by the Ministry for State-owned Industry, will be directed towards rationalizing the network of ports so as to make them capable of receiving the largest tankers, concentrating refining in fewer refineries but with larger capacity (possibly through promoting co-pipelines.

sortia), and expanding the system of pipelines from oil terminals to refineries and onwards to consumers.

The agreement with Algeria is a major step in ensuring diversified gas supplies, as the 11,700 million cubic metres which will flow annually from 1978-79 is more than the amount being delivered by any of the other large foreign suppliers, the Soviet Union, Holland or Libya. The total capital investment from Jahassi R'mel in Algeria to near La Spezia is estimated by ENI officials at about 1,100,000 lire (£730m) at 1974 prices. ENI has so far laid a 15-kilometre pilot pipeline across the Strait of Messina, thereby claiming a record as the maximum depth of 1,180 ft under the sea is greater than that anywhere else, including the North Sea.

The Strait of Messina presents a special problem because of the changeable currents, the rough nature of the sea bed, and liability to earthquakes. But greater depths, down to 1,600ft, will have to be overcome when laying the pipeline across the 100-mile Sicilian channel from Cap Bon in Tunisia to Mazare del Valle in Sicily. ENI, which hopes to obtain the pipe-laying contract for this sector too, plans test laying there next year. In the meantime, its officials say, they are experimenting off Norway to see what effect the nets of fishing trawlers might have on submerged pipelines.

In Sardinia, in addition to the existing complexes at Cagliari and Porto Torres, two new ventures are in progress for the production of man-made fibres near Ottana in the centre of the island.

Many of the projects planned or under construction are promoted by the big four of the petrochemical industry, Montedison, ENI (with its chemical subsidiary Anic), SIR and Liquegas. An example of an initiative which intends to draw on Algerian gas is provided by SIR's 230,000m lire (£153m) plant for resins and plastics under construction at Sant'Eufemia on the Tyrrhenian coast in Calabria.

The plant is not taking up valuable agricultural land in the Sant'Eufemia plains as it occupies a former army tank firing range, and it has a problem in getting the army to remove a number of old derelict tank hulks, but costs are high as the buildings have to be resistant to earthquakes and the foundations have to take account of possibly waterlogged ground.

The number employed in the seventh year of operation will rise to a maximum of 2,550. This is equivalent to about 90m lire (£60,000) per employee, and may well provide ammunition to those southerners who complain that all the thousands of millions of lire poured into the Mezzogiorno have produced too few jobs.

J.E. European Commission tend

Flight of workers from land in search of decent living remains cause for concern

by David Willey

In spite of a comprehensive land reform programme carried out in the 1950s, the state of agriculture in southern Italy is still a cause for concern. The gap between farm and industrial incomes is wider than in any other part of the European Community, and the depopulation of the countryside resulting from the flight from the land by workers in search of a decent living has led to new problems.

Statistics show that many farms have no workers and the situation is likely to get worse over the next five years as an ageing farm population decreases by another estimated 250,000 through retirements and deaths. Already the farm population in the Mezzogiorno has decreased by more than half between 1951 and 1972 from 3,679,000 to 1,758,000. Agricultural productivity remains low because the land is still divided into uneconomic units.

Land reform in the South consisted in splitting up big estates and redistributing them to families. One success, for example, in the Fucino was divided up into 29,000 holdings under the former feudal type of farming system. The estate was redistributed to 3,000 families, mostly in farms of between 12 and 25 acres.

This size of farm was based on an income structure that is no longer valid. Given the rapid economic development of Italy over the past 25 years and the serious attack of inflation, individual holdings of this size are often not economically viable.

Little has been done to enable farms in the Mezzogiorno to supply an international market through the creation of an adequate food processing industry. Agricultural marketing techniques are also backward.

The depressed European economic climate means that the exodus from the land is expected to slow to a negligible level in 1975. But the income gap is expected to grow. Italian planners realize that the problem is basically one of more rational use of manpower but are not laying the groundwork for a new deal for southern farmers.

The Common Agricultural policy of the European Community has benefited the farms of Mezzogiorno less than anywhere else because of the general backwardness of the area. Agricultural directives of the EEC

to remain a dead letter for two reasons.

First, the unstable Italian political situation in which the average tenure of a government is less than a year means that enabling laws relating to EEC policies fail to get parliamentary approval and end up in the huge backlog of legislation that gets put off indefinitely from one year to another.

Second, specific schemes such as farm credits for particular purposes tend to be linked to development plans over a term of years during which a certain level of productivity has to be achieved to qualify for further help. But southern farms take too long to reach the required level of productivity and thus fail to qualify for community aid.

Capital intensive farming also presupposes a mentality which the average southern farmer does not have, so EEC incentives for more

efficient farming are likely to continue to fail to work in the Mezzogiorno.

Various pilot schemes have been put into operation to increase cattle farming in the Mezzogiorno but this sector of agriculture is in crisis, as in other parts of Italy. Partly this is due to the slaughter of calves for veal, partly to the lack of a market for fresh milk in the Mezzogiorno, partly to the balance of payments problems, created by the import of grain for cattle feed.

There is little pasture available for cattle production in the Mezzogiorno. The increased demand for beef in Italy has to be met by massive imports and there is no doubt that the import of cattle from the Mezzogiorno would do much to ease Italy's balance of payments crisis, which was an extra £1,500m into the red this year for meat imports alone.

As living standards have risen all over Italy, the beefsteak has become a sort of status symbol and only a thin beefsteak. Meat consumption in Italy has now risen to the level of the remainder of the European community.

Some experiments are being carried out in buffalo ranching in the Naples area and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome has been advising on the advantages of the buffalo as a meat producer.

Fruit and citrus production in the Mezzogiorno suffers from a lack of efficient distribution and export machinery. Production is still mainly aimed at domestic markets on a city by city basis and traditionally only the surplus goes for export. Thus Italian oranges are not competitive within the EEC and foreign importers complain

they are sure neither of continuity nor quality.

Wine production is growing steadily, particularly in Puglia, but the qualities of the Italian wine industry have been resolved only within recent years, it is too early to make a reliable forecast of trends.

Perhaps the only really successful area of agricultural reform carried out in the Mezzogiorno has been in irrigation. Many important irrigation schemes have been completed as part of the Southern Development Fund's infrastructure programme, but too often the maximum benefit is not being enjoyed by farmers, who lack the technical knowledge to adapt their production to the new crops made possible by irrigation.

The old system of hiring farm labour by the day is disappearing as agricultural workers are beginning to enjoy the benefits of collective labour contracts and trade union support in their fight for a proper living.

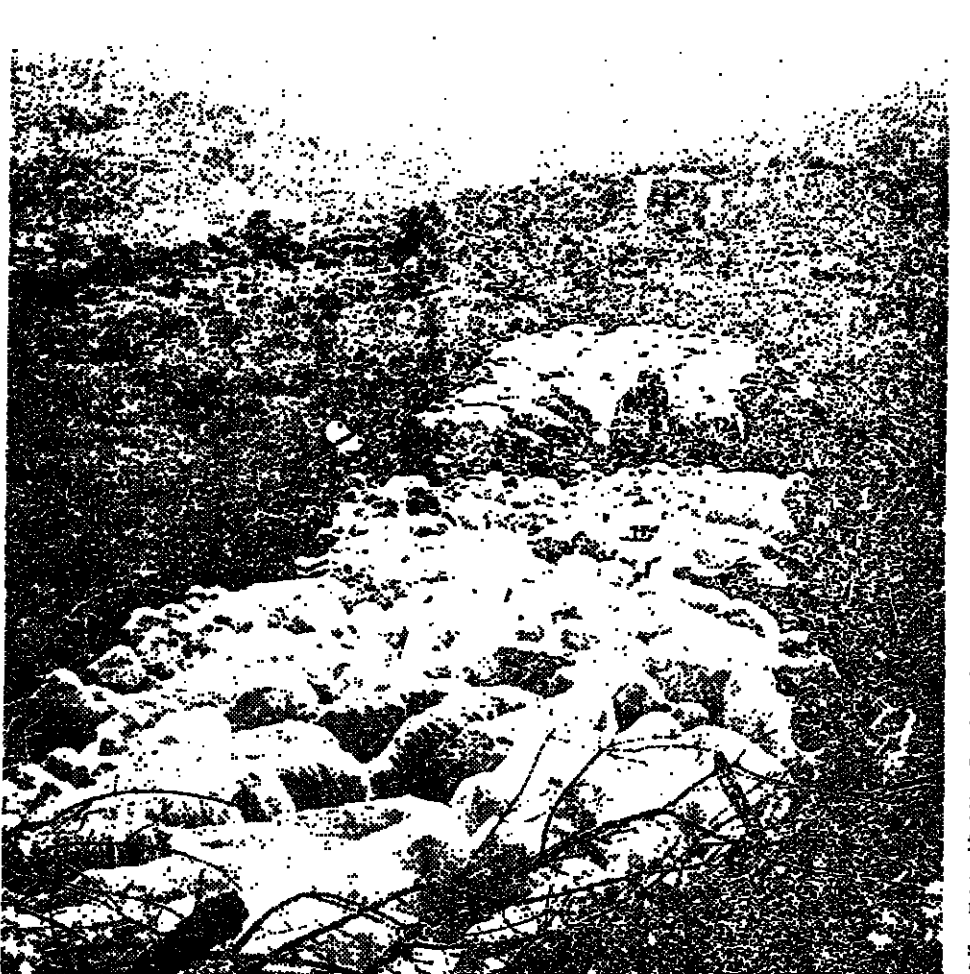
Yet the backward state of agriculture in Southern Italy means that the small farmer is at an increasing disadvantage. The high wages that agricultural workers demand at peak harvest times may eat up all his profit while the labourer is still suffering from serious underemployment most of the year.

It is not uncommon for a casual worker to earn up to £15 a day when the demand for labour exceeds supply, when the olive crop is being gathered, for example. But the labourer can still end up living at subsistence level when he averages out his earnings over the year.

Southern agriculture is still based on the family farm where hired labour is kept to a minimum. Many of these family farms are being abandoned or are inhabited by old people uninterested in the concept of productivity.

Only the worst land tends to be abandoned altogether but the predominantly mountainous nature of the terrain in Southern Italy combined with the piecemeal abandonment of holdings means that a new land reform programme presents formidable difficulties.

Yet only the creation of larger farm units and modernization of production methods are viable solutions. Southern agriculture on its feet. Official government policy is now to try to bring farm incomes into line with industrial incomes by concentrating on units of 50 acres and more.



Sheep have provided the only possibility of making money for many southern Italians because of the backward state of agriculture. Sardinia (above) is one of the poorest regions.

TARANTO SUPPLIES TUBES TO THE REST OF THE WORLD

Two new tube mills have been brought into service as part of the planned expansion of the Italsider Steelworks complex at Taranto: its second mill for the production of longitudinally-welded tubes with diameters of up to 22 mm and lengths of up to 18 metres; and a mill producing spiral-wound welded tubes up to 2,540 mm in diameter, in 18 metre length.

The four tube mills bend and weld steel strip produced from the works into tubular form, two of them weld the strip longitudinally and the other two weld the spiral and strip.

Before processing, all strip is inspected by ultrasonic tests that can pick up any fault, however minute. The longitudinal weld undergoes careful visual inspection and is then inspected by both ultrasonic and X-ray techniques before and after expansion and hydrostatic testing.

At the end of the finished tube is rechecked by ultrasonic magnetic particle flaw detection methods. Italsider's quality control measures are even more stringent and thorough than before: in the new longitudinally-welded mill, for instance, almost one kilometre of X-ray film printed and, in each 110 man shift, no less than 35 people—metallurgists and inspection staff—are employed quality control.

Large-diameter tubes are used for special purposes: they must be able to convey fluids at high pressure (60 atm.) and the steel strip used in their manufacture must meet particularly high specifications. The strip must be sufficiently ductile to permit the desired mechanical dimensional changes when the tubes are formed and cooled in a cold state.

Ductility of steel gradually decreases, thereby creating internal stresses, throughout the tube-making cycle as well as when the strip is rolled. It is essential, therefore, that type of steel used to manufacture cold-expanded tubes must have a sufficient margin of ductility and that it should be highly resistant to deformation. Other very important requirements for steel to be used for large-diameter tubes are high strength and shear resistance. This is a continuing vital problem, as it will determine the reliability of the welded tubing. Unless the steel is carefully selected, any weaknesses occurring in the tubes during fabrication or when the tubes are laid would be subject to stress, especially at low temperatures, and could lead to disastrous

explosions. The steel selected must be able to prevent the spread of any unexpected fracture. These are general observations, but they indicate the vital importance of using strip with the correct chemical and mechanical properties, especially from the point of view of weldability. The yield point for these steels is approximately 50 kg/mm² and there are already prospects of using weldable steels with a yield point of 70 kg/mm².

THE IMPACT OF ITALSIDER THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

"Taranto tubes" today enjoy a world-wide reputation for high quality.

Italsider has collaborated in the construction of the major gas pipeline systems in Great Britain, Argentina, Holland, Algeria, the United States and Canada. It has also played a leading role in creating the massive system of gas pipe lines already installed and still under construction in Italy. "Taranto tubes" were used for the first underwater gas line along the coast of Texas, one of the largest of its kind in the world, following authorization from the Federal Power Commission for the use of tubes manufactured outside the United States.

Italsider tubes are used on an even vaster scale in the Soviet Union, North Africa (Libya, Algeria), the West Central part of Africa (Nigeria), the Middle East (Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria), and the Far East (Malaysia). Italsider now has a contract for the supply of approximately one million tonnes of high quality tubes to the Soviet Union.

Italy is also the terminal of two international oil pipelines—Genoa-Ingolstadt and Trieste-Ingolstadt.

Then again Italy is now extending its water and sewage mains systems in many of its regions, with Italsider supplying tubes for the Pertusillo aqueduct and for projects financed by the Cassa del Mezzogiorno.

Taranto tubes were also used for the construction of the underwater mains at Trieste—one of the longest in the world—by Montubi, a company in the Finsider group.

This brief review shows the impact that Italsider has made on the national and international market for large-diameter tubes and the contribution it has made to Italy's economic growth through exports.



On this and the facing page John Earle and Peter Nichols interview distinguished Italians from the South

Twenty years of office equip Signor Colombo for fresh challenges

Just after the war Signor Emilio Colombo was one of the Christian Democrats' two youthful prodigies, together with the Roman Signor Giulio Andreotti. Now aged 54, Signor Colombo became member of Parliament at 26, an under-secretary or deputy minister (of agriculture) at 28, and Minister of Agriculture again at 35.

For most of the past 20 years he has been a minister almost without interruption, holding portfolios including the premiership (August 1970 to February 1972), industry, finance, budget and, during which he established a reputation as a negotiator on European Economic Community issues and a fervent supporter of British membership.

The difficulty facing many youthful prodigies is where to go when youth is past. Signor Colombo is still young enough to look to further challenges like the party secretaryship, the presidency of the republic, or a national post. With his unrivalled grasp of European affairs he is the most accomplished of Italian politicians. But the danger of an Italian politician accepting a post abroad, however important or powerful, is that his power base at home

may be undermined. Even now in his home town of Potenza the people complain they see too little of him.

Graphed in his dark blue suit on the back of a donkey jolting across the Lucanian countryside. But in Rome, where four sisters and one brother also reside, and the family home on Potenza's Via Pretoria stands empty. Local people are disappointed at not seeing more small factories, roads and public buildings, such as the typical Mezzogiorno politician is expected to provide for his constituents. But Signor Colombo has grown too big for Basilicata.

Though the family originated from Reggio Calabria, Signor Colombo grew up as the fourth of seven children in Potenza where his father was a clerk in the chamber of commerce. A decisive formative influence, in his youth, Signor Colombo relates, was his parish priest, Don Vincenzo d'Elia, friend and follower of Don Luigi Sturzo, founder of the Catholic "partito" or "movimento" (movement), rising to become vice-president of its youth movement. His education was completed with a law degree at Rome University.

Called up for war service, he became an officer cadet and then, he recalls, was posted to a unit in the north on the day the Allied armistice with Italy was signed. So he made his way to Rome, where he prepared postwar political activity with other young Christian Democrats like Signor Aldo Moro, Signor Bettino Craxi and Signor Giulio Andreotti.

After the war Signor Colombo was tempted to make his career in the academic world. But, he says, he let his name be for Parliament, thinking it would provide an interesting two-year interlude hampering out the new republic.

Parliament, thinking it would provide an interesting two-year interlude hampering out the new republic. In Basilicata's ancient Francesco Saverio Nitti, a representative of the old pre-Fascist Liberals and a prewar prime minister and, thanks to what Signor Colombo calls "being a novelty," obtained more votes than Nitti.

After that his course was set, culminating in one of the longer and more difficult premierships of recent years, which had to cope with the Reggio di Calabria revolt and the alleged plot for a neo-Fascist coup by the followers of the late Prince Valerio Borghese. But, Signor Colombo states, if he could go back and

choose his life once more, "I would almost certainly do the same again."

Bachelorhood and a Roman Catholic upbringing sometimes encourage the press to use terms like "political missionary," overgrown choirboy, or lay cardinal. In fact he is much more direct in conversation than the typical ecclesiastical dignitary, and the other common cliché rings slightly more true, that of being the most Anglo-Saxon Christian Democrat from the Mezzogiorno, from the cut of his suits, the open power in his office and a stiff upper lip which seldom allows outbursts of emotion.

Lacking a family life—he returns to his four-roomed flat on the Via Aurelia near the Vatican only to sleep—Signor Colombo risks being more exposed to the relentless pressures of public life, and feels the need for constant struggle to maintain inner equilibrium against what he calls "this dehumanization."

He likes walking about Rome, sometimes taking a taxi in preference to the official car, attending when possible a classical concert, and going into public places—"you can learn a lot just from how the people look at you." The day usually ends with a late dinner in a trattoria with



Signor Colombo—"I would do the same again"—and Potenza, his home town, where the parish priest was a decisive influence of his youth.

friends or relations. He is close to two of the sisters in Rome who do not have husbands to look after, and



enjoys being uncle to 11 nephews and nieces. The Christian Democrats have latterly come under considerable criticism for internal feuding, corruption, and letting Italy sink during their three decades of power to its present state. Signor Colombo defends their record. The difficulties left nor neo-Fascists to the

tedly serious, and many problems remain unsolved. But, he maintains, history will show that Italy has made remarkable progress in this period while preserving a free society. There was no real choice to achieve this but under Christian Democrat rule, as neither Communists to the left nor neo-Fascists to the

right are a valid democratic alternative. Christian Democracy, he argues, has provided essential stability for 30 years, and some of the country's ills derive from this stability. He adds that the defects of today are not the fault of Christian Democracy alone; some of the smaller allies should examine their consciences, too.

Signor Colombo may appear somewhat on the side recently in party circles. His energies have largely been devoted to a guard action in defence of the economy and the ability of the lira. But he should be plenty of for his talents yet.

Governments may crumble but the head of 150 companies carries on

Professor Giuseppe Petrilli has more authority than many government ministers and has exercised it much longer. Chairman since October, 1960, of the parastatal corporation IRI (Istituto per la Ricostruzione Industriale), he is one of the small band of managers, like Guido Carli, Governor of the Bank of Italy, who keeps things going despite the ephemerality of governments.

Though a Christian Democrat Party member and good friend of Professor Amintore Fanfani, the party secretary, his name is not associated with the shadier side of the party's intrigue and his inclination to become a minister is no secret.

It is difficult to visit Italy without using IRI companies. The tourist may arrive by air (Alitalia) or sea (Finmare Shipping Lines), change money at the bank (Banca Commerciale Italiana, Banco di Roma, Credito Italiano, Banco di Santo Spirito), travel in an Alfa Romeo (Finmeccanica Group), along

the motorway (Autostrade), stop at a café (Motta, Alemagna), and communicate with friends by telephone (STET) or cable (Italcable).

IRI is prominent in steel-making (Finsider Group), shipbuilding (Fincantieri Group), nuclear (Ansaldo Meccanica Nucleare) and other forms of engineering (Ansaldo San Giorgio, Italtelco), plant design and construction (Italmontedil), broadcasting and television (RAI TV). Altogether IRI controls more than 150 companies with a payroll of 473,000 from a rented headquarters of Via Veneto, near the American Embassy.

In addition to heading this empire, Professor Petrilli is President of the Italian wing of the European movement, and lectures from 5 pm to 6 pm three days a week to fourth-year undergraduates at Rome University on the economics of insurance. He also finds time for private writing, a recent book being a study of Thomas More, the Tudor statesman.

These interests leave little

time for social life, theatre, novel reading, or concerts. Married with three grown-up children, Professor Petrilli relaxes by listening to classical records or setting himself advanced mathematical problems. But any impression of coldness which his steely blue eyes and bald domed head might infer is dispelled as soon as he warms up to talk about IRI or Europe.

Professor Petrilli was born on March 24, 1913, at Naples, though his father, a lawyer, originated from Puglia and his mother from Amalfi. His education was in Rome—classical Lycée, followed by two degrees at Rome University, in mathematics and physics, and in the science of actuarial statistics.

As a young man his career seemed set in social insurance institutes. He rose to be president of an institute for employees of public corporations, then president of INAM, the biggest in the country. He is proud that after nine years at INAM he left its accounts showing a profit—deficits of thousands

of millions of lire are normally the rule in Italian social insurance institutes.

Professor Petrilli was offered the job—and had to accept "from one day to the next"—of Commissioner for Social Affairs at the European Economic Community Commission in Brussels. During three years there, from 1957 to 1960, he was active in drawing up the regulations for the free circulation of workers, for the social security of migrant workers, and in setting up the European Social Fund, of which he was first president.

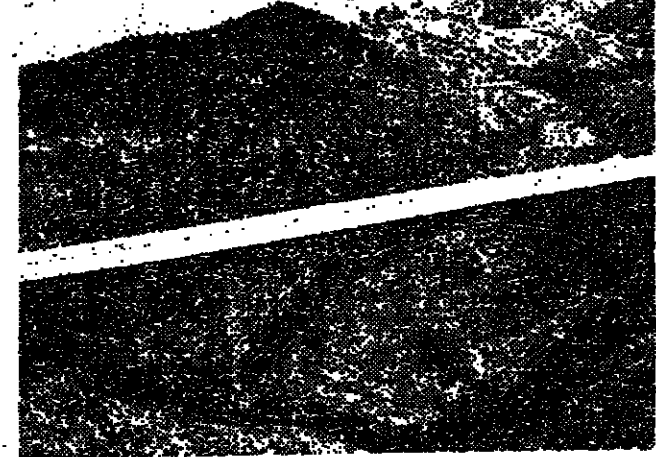
Then, at short notice again, Professor Fanfani, the Prime Minister at the time, asked him to return to assume the vacant chairmanship of IRI. Fourteen years have not shaken his conviction that the IRI formula is sound, even if some IRI companies have fallen on hard times, particularly those hit by escalating fuel costs like Alitalia, Finmare, Alfa Romeo and Autostrade.

He points out that sectors like steel, banking and food



are still doing nicely, and the group as a whole made an overall profit of 35,000m lire (£23m) last year. However, this year's results will inevitably be worse and a real return to prosperity is unlikely before 1976.

The IRI formula rests on partnership between public and private enterprise. The state supplies a small part



of the capital as an endowment fund. It should be no more than a tenth of the rest, which is raised on the market, though latterly this share has been exceeded, perhaps too much so.

Executives receive salaries comparable to the private sector, with the advantage over civil servants in being removable if inefficient. IRI

companies aim at a profit, provided this is consistent with government social and economic policies. They can be used by the Government to move into strategic sectors such as advanced technology, defence against undesired foreign takeovers, or development of the Mezzogiorno.

More than ever in the

Professor Petrilli, still confident after 14 years at the helm, and a sector of the Autostrade del Sole, one of the IRI interests.

current recession, IRI's arm is squeezed by Government, to avoid redundancies and to accept political nominees to put up greater resistance to certain government pressures. Professor Petrilli admitted. As he sees it, the Government must lay down overall policy objectives, but should give his companies a free hand in achieving them.

The IRI formula is probably not exportable as such to other countries, since it grew pragmatically from typically Italian conditions—a shortage of risk capital, low quality of much private management, the gap between North and South. But Professor Petrilli believes

there is something for countries in what he synthesises with private instrument.

Seen through Italian eyes the more rigid British of setting up action bodies to achieve public objectives is not the approach. For, as Professor Petrilli said: "I am fondly convinced the instrument has always been less effective than private instrument."

Professor Petrilli devotes his weekend Europe, addressing audiences in different parts of the country. He criticises the approach taken by trying to construct E through economic measures decided at high level. He is needed to build Europe from its foundations. The structures would be of controlling economic phenomena like the national companies, no subject to no supranational authority.

The Campania Region in search of a new role in the South, in Italy as a whole and in Europe

NAPLES: From ex-capital to regional metropolis

Summary: All the new programmes are aimed at redirecting development towards the internal zones of the territory, following decisions made by the regional government. Initiatives in the industrial, agricultural and tourist sectors. The immense undertaking of disinfecting the Gulf has begun. Assistance in the sectors of health services and transport.

Naples is the capital of one of the most difficult regions of Europe. If we wanted to define the rôle of the Campania in terms of economic geography we could call it a border region; it is the gateway to the South of Italy and symbolically summarises all the problems and headaches of economic and social recovery. This statement is supported by the figures: in every sector of activity, Naples and the Campania present a situation which is a little higher than the Southern average, but certainly lower than that of the rest of Italy. Let us make just one comparison: the percentage of active population of the Campania is 45.42%, a lower than the overall Italian percentage (47.26%) but slightly higher than that for the whole of Southern Italy (45.01%).

A "difficult" region, then, conditioned by a population "burden" which is among the highest in Europe: over 5 million inhabitants distributed—badly as we shall see—over an area of 1,464,251 hectares. In percentage terms the figures are more indicative: while the surface of the Campania accounts for 4% of the national territory and 19% of that of the South, the population represents respectively 9.4%

and 38%. These figures should be taken as obligatory points of reference in any discussion on Naples and the Campania, and on the obstacles confronting the region in the realization of more incisive economic and social development. The first obstacle, and without doubt the most serious one, is Naples itself which, like Venice, although for different reasons—is a real "problem city", which has until now exercised a parasitical predominance over the whole of the region. Only over the last few years—assisted in this by the initiation of regional reform—has Naples been trying concretely to "change its ways" and to define its rôle, which should be that of a regional metropolis at the service of the regional territory, wiping out with one clean stroke all that still remains of the old, archaic image which has conditioned it up to now.

All the new town-planning implements and all the decisions on establishing new industries are now motivated by this idea of bringing about a redirecting of the industrial and housing activities of the coastal belt, which is saturated beyond the limits of its possibilities, towards the internal zones which, in contrast, have

become depopulated almost to the point of jeopardizing their survival, precisely in consequence of the "monocentric rigidity" which has characterized the whole development of the region, including its cultural life.

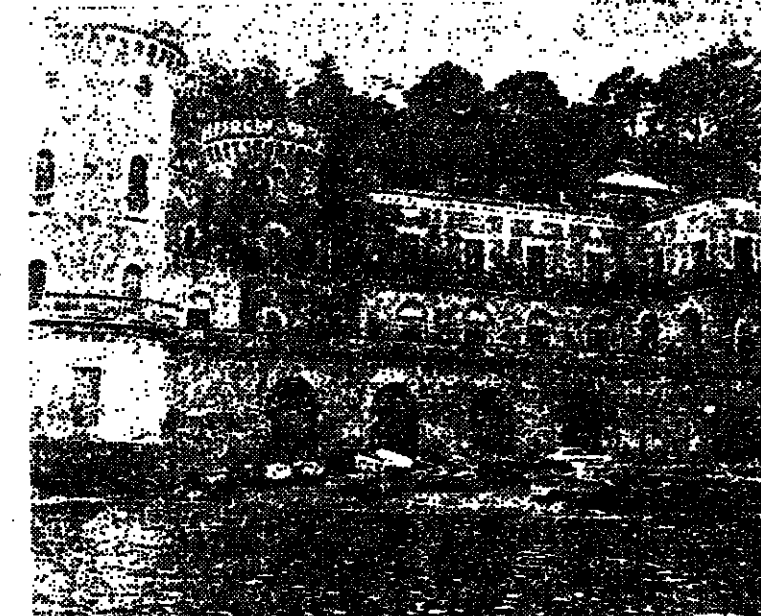
This requirement has been affirmed for the first time by the Committee for the economic planning of the Campania and, hence, has become an operating principle, which promoted first the installation of Alfa Sud—the first large car factory in the South—in a zone focused on the internal and peripheral situation of the region, and subsequently a more balanced distribution of industrial initiatives. In this way interesting industrial concentrations have been created: the Salerno complex, which is now one of the most sizeable and active of the South, that of Capua-Caserta and in particular that to the north and north-east of Naples, with its point of highest concentration in Alfa Sud.

The "logic of redirection" has been taken as a model by the regional government too, ruled from the outset by a centrist coalition, and in these very months has received its first sanction in the document on the "options" for the economic and social development of the Campania drawn up by the Chairman of the regional board, Prof. Vittorio Caschetta, which, after approval by the regional Council, must be considered the platform for the development plan now in an advanced stage of realization. In this logic and the most recent decisions are also incorporated, such as the construction of the international airport at Grazzanise—in the area between Naples and Caserta—the Fiat plant at Grottole in the province of Avellino—and that of SIR in the Sele plain—in the province of Salerno—the restructuring of the port system, which has of course its main focus in the port of Naples, but is diversifying its regional presence, giving potential to the activities of the ports of Salerno, Castellammare and the other minor ports—and, finally, the new packet of initiatives for 65 milliard lire in the sector of the small and medium-sized industries, which has already been approved by the central planning institutions and is about to become operative. The effectiveness of this development plan is of course bound up with a solution to the other problems in the sector of infrastructures and services, the lack of which, as the cholera episode dramatically proved, exceeded the safety limits. The regional board is working out the new hospital plan and at this very

moment the immense project of disinfecting the region, which will mean work of considerable importance and, above all, the expansion of the drainage networks of the Neapolitan area to cover the real demands of the community. The undertaking of these works roughly at the same time will also have a positive effect on the difficult conjunctural situation of the Campania and to improve employment levels, which have undergone fluctuations as a result of the crisis confronting the whole country: the regional board, under the chairmanship of Prof. Vittorio Caschetta, has defined the lines of action of this "emergency strategy", with the agreement of the head offices of the trade unions, aimed at the realization of all the projects already operative, with recourse to exceptional bureaucratic procedures.

In the vital sector of internal transport we are also undergoing a period of great upheaval: the most important works in the initial stages, after the plans have been determined, are the first line of the Naples underground railway, the doubling of the Circumvesuviana railway track, the modernization of the Cumana Railway, and some internal links indispensable for solving the problems of commuters.

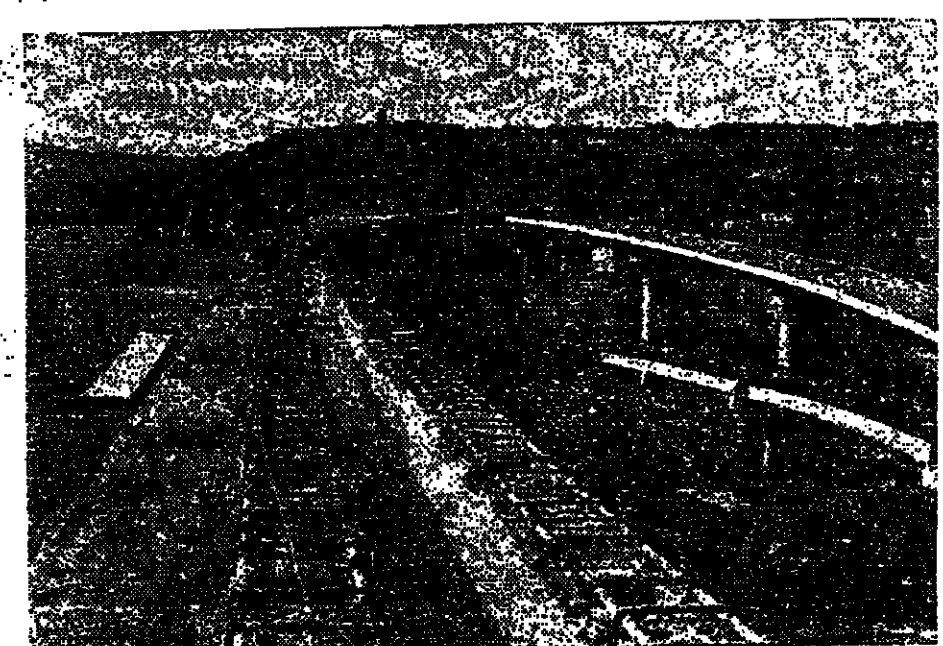
In conclusion, a few words on the other two main sectors of the Campania economy: agriculture and tourism. The



One of the most picturesque corners of Positano. For relaunching tourism at Naples and in the Campania this season, the enterprise was successfully tested of a regional cultural tour. Programmes of considerable artistic interest were given in the classical theatre of Pompei, in the charterhouse on Capri, at Sorrento, in the Palace at Caserta, at Positano, at Benevento and at Palinuro.

region has recently launched a legislative package which the unions involved considered positive and advanced because it is aimed at a restatement of policy of industrial bases of the traditional activities and at the exploitation of some resources which have been little utilized in the past in particular in animal husbandry. Where tourism is concerned, the period following the cholera outbreak has been noted of a promising revival, thanks too to the improvement, carried out at regional level, of the cultural field, which had its traditional but sole focus in the summer activities in the theatre at Pompei. An authentic cultural tourists' itinerant was worked out which includes all the most important monuments, from the historical and the aesthetic point of view, of the Campania: the Palace of Caserta, the historical centre of Benevento, the charterhouse of Capri, Sorrento, Palinuro and Positano, where a theatre has been erected on the beach amidst natural scenery which the great and exacting Laurence Olivier has called the most picturesque stage in the world.

It is one of the new triumphs of Naples and more important ones will be added in order that the Campania can obtain for itself the rôle which lies within its scope in the South, in Italy and in Europe.



One of the worksites of the new urban highway of Naples, now under construction. It links the industrial zone of the east of the city with the west zone, and joins up with the national highway system. It is twenty kilometres long and has four lanes.

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The complete man of the theatre who is also a social critic

culturally the South has been more practised. Much of his early career was spent in the theatre, before he moved to the cinema. He is a formidable actor, but he is also a formidable writer. He has written a number of plays, and he has been a director. He is a man of many talents, and he is a man who is also a social critic. He has written a number of plays, and he has been a director. He is a man of many talents, and he is a man who is also a social critic. He has written a number of plays, and he has been a director. He is a man of many talents, and he is a man who is also a social critic.

How controlled his acting has become, that powerful quiet. How superb his management of group scenes; everyone in his company is a faultless actor. Life itself has not treated Eduardo kindly. His childhood was difficult. His first marriage, to an American, ended quickly. His second wife died soon after their daughter had died. The sister with whom he used to act died early and he is not on good terms with his brother, the actor Pappalardo De Filippo.

Many of his dreams have been shattered. In 1953 he bought the San Ferdinando Theatre in Naples, which had been partly destroyed during the war and abandoned. He restored it with his own money, and gave it to the people of Naples. He is now a man who is also a social critic. He has written a number of plays, and he has been a director. He is a man of many talents, and he is a man who is also a social critic.

He is unhappy when he performs a play which shows the ineffectiveness of the ruling classes only to find a queue of them at his dressing room door to offer their congratulations. Years before *The Godfather* he wrote a play called *Il*

He is unhappy when he performs a play which shows the ineffectiveness of the ruling classes only to find a queue of them at his dressing room door to offer their congratulations. Years before *The Godfather* he wrote a play called *Il*



Eduardo de Filippo, whose play "Saturday, Sunday, Monday" (right) is now being presented in London by the National Theatre Company with Frank Finlay, Stephen Grief and Joan Plowright.



Cardinal friend of the lost

archbishop's palace in tests, but by showing with no might seem an un- well organized and con- place to look for a tained zeal what can be approach to the done. One of the principal ways in the social field is through his "Palermo mission" which is attracting a good deal of attention not only in the city but in the wider world of Catholic social activists where it is internationally known. The mission consists of groups of priests and laymen who work in centres established in the slums of the old city.

Their text is "all, with all, for the least." The cardinal explains that what he means by "the least" are those without a home, without education (there is still a serious problem in Palermo of illiteracy), without work, without the minimum of facilities for personal hygiene, who no longer seek the church and had ceased to be sought by it.

"The least" are those forgotten by everyone except, often, by the police. They are the disinherited, the rejected. There are estimated to be 100,000-150,000 of them in Palermo alone. Among his social workers he has five nuns trained by Mother Theresa; one a Florentine and four of them Indians. "The Third World", he points out, "is on our doorstep."

So is the Mediterranean. He recalls as a Sicilian that the island belonged to the Byzantine Christianity before the Arab occupation and was brought under the Latin church only by the Normans. As an ecumenist he is cultivating relations with the Greek Orthodox.

In October last year, a delegation from the Greek Orthodox Holy Synod spent four days as guests of the Sicilian bishops in a visit clearly of great importance. The Cardinal explained during his address to his visitors in Palermo Cathedral that local churches should work out what best they could do individually

in terms of their history and other elements to promote the cause of unity.

He is not political in the way that Cardinal Ruffini was political. Whereas Cardinal Ruffini publicly stated that the Mafia was an invention of the newspapers, Cardinal Pappalardo condemns it. He does not spare the politicians for their shortcomings, which in Sicily are immense shortcomings.

On October 10 the Sicilian bishops over whom he presides issued a statement on current problems which is expected to be followed by a more general statement from the whole national episcopal conference. The Sicilian statement points out that the grave crisis with which the country is faced could reasonably be a cause for worry on the part of other regions, "but for our region it is a genuine reason for anguish."

The document is a thorough condemnation of political behaviour, the weakening of the system by "sterile and damaging rivalry because of a greed for a bigger slice of power," the greater proportionate weight of taxation on the poor than the rich, and excessive profits made by the privileged classes while the pay of the workers remains disproportionate to the cost of living.

It is reasonable to suppose that there is a lack of a sincere search for the public good. That could certainly not be said of Palermo's Cardinal Archbishop. His respect for traditional values but an understanding as well for modern life makes him an outstanding figure in Italian Catholicism and, in the view of the inhabitants of his birthplace, a certain confidence that he could reach the highest office.

P.N.

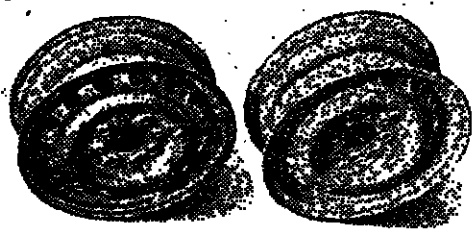
Monsignor Salvatore Pappalardo, Cardinal Archbishop of Palermo, meets Mrs Ian Stevens, wife of the British Consul in Palermo. Below: spanning a stream... spanning the centuries—contrasting bridges on the Trabia motorway near Palermo, Sicily.



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(Since the test was run on Swedish roads, through Swedish winters, in this country perhaps you can expect more.)



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In a separate test conducted by the Touring Club of Switzerland, they found that of the 34 makes of cars they rated, 80% of them broke down more often than Fiats.

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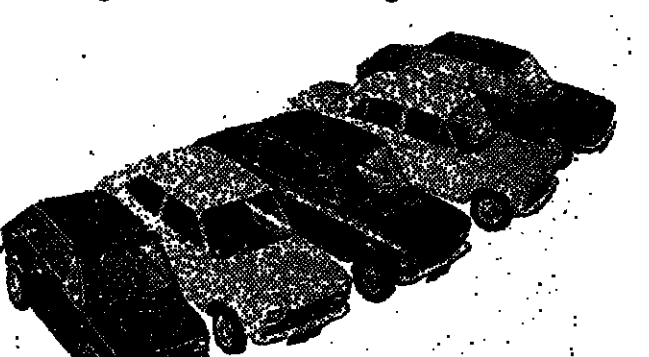
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by Patricia Clough

Southern Italy and the islands, halfway between primitive isolation and full tourist development, are ripe for visitors who like to discover relatively unspoiled areas without suffering pioneer hardships.

The difficulties which have kept these areas off the map for so long, inaccessibility and lack of decent accommodation, are rapidly being overcome.

The principal towns and cities are now within a few hours' flying of Britain, sea links have improved, the Autostrada del Sole goes down to Reggio di Calabria on the toe of Italy and new highways have brought most areas within easy reach of the motorist.

Hotels and restaurants are springing up in many areas. At the same time the South can still boast, as well as abundant sunshine and lovely scenery, unpolluted sea in most places, large stretches of unspoiled coastline and a refreshing lack of crowds.

For centuries—indeed since Roman times as the Neapolitans can proudly claim—tourism in the South has meant primarily the Bay of Naples, the Sorrento Peninsula, Capri and Ischia. This area still accounts for about a third of all tourist business in the South.

The Campania regional authorities are at present engaged in a massive publicity campaign, particularly abroad, designed to counteract the bad image created by last year's cholera epidemic, although they say that business has picked up again remarkably well this year.

Another major effort in this popular region is to rejuvenate the elderly hotels and other establishments inherited from the period at the end of the last century when the area was one of the favourite haunts of Europe's aristocracy.

For those who prefer less well-beaten tracks, a short way to the South is Calabria with its spectacular coastal scenery, the lovely wooded Sila mountains and the fast Agropoli for those who care to explore the interior with its medieval villages and primitive way of life, of discovering a completely different world.

Another beauty spot is the Gargano peninsula, which forms the spur of Italy jutting out into the Adriatic. Already well equipped with hotels, it is one of the few areas which has good forests.

To the south stretches Puglia, mainly flat but rich with olive groves, vineyards and almond orchards, its ancient fishing and farming villages dazzling white under the brilliant sunshine.

To visitors conditioned by tales of the Mafia and vendettas, Sicily comes as a complete surprise. They are unprepared for the sheer beauty of the place and the friendliness of the people.

Places of interest fall into a natural tour of the coast—the Arab-Norman architecture and dazzling mosaics at Palermo and Monreale, Greek temples at Segesta, Selinunte and Agrigento, the splendid Roman mosaics at Piazza Armerina, Siracusa, Enna and finally a well-earned rest at Taormina.

For many Sardinia means the Costa Smeralda, but although the Aga Khan's luxury holiday paradise has acted as a boost to the island's tourist development there are more modest places on equally pretty stretches of coast and plenty of untouched areas where one can still have a



The unspoiled setting for a tourist hotel on the island of Filicudi in the Lipari group. Great efforts are being made to modernize hotels in the South.

Riches inches below the soil

A few feet, sometimes only a few inches, beneath the sun-baked soil of southern Italy a treasure lies buried so vast and rich that its extent can only be guessed.

Prehistoric man, Greeks, Phoenicians, Carthaginians, local Italic races and early Christians have left behind their art and their sculpture, their cities and their tombs, temples and theatres, inscriptions, jewels, money and chattels.

What is known of this vast subterranean treasure makes southern Italy and the islands one of the richest archaeological areas in the Mediterranean.

The most spectacular and best-known of these are the Roman city of Pompeii, the most intimate details of its life preserved for centuries under the lava of Vesuvius, the neighbouring town of Herculaneum and the majestic temples of Paestum.

Richest of all is Sicily, its coasts studded with the Greek colonies of Magna Graecia.

Visitors can explore, Virgil in hand, the mythological country around Naples (the Lake of Avernus, the cave of the Sybil at Cuma, the Roman city of Pompeii, the Plegian igloo-type Sybaris, and part of the prehistoric Nuragh civilization in Sardinia, or marvel over ancient art and culture in the many museums in which the most important movable objects are kept.

Every year brings new discoveries. At Paestum, recently farmers came across tombs, one of which contains on its inner walls the only Greek paintings, apart from those on pottery, to have survived.

Hundreds of other tombs found near Paestum provided another important discovery: that the Lucanians, an Italic tribe from the hinterland who occupied Paestum from the fourth century BC, were not the rough and primitive barbarians previously supposed but were prosperous, civilized and with an advanced Greek-inspired culture of their own.

One of the most published excavations recently has been that of Sybaris, the Greek city-port on the

istep of the Italian boot, legendary for its prosperity, luxury and easy living. Sybaris was saved in extremis after a fierce battle by the press and the world of culture against plans to build a petrochemical and thermoelectric complex almost on top of the presumed site of the city.

After it seemed that all was lost, the Government in April, 1969, changed its mind, ordered the industries to be sited farther away, the most important, earmarked the equivalent of £800,000 for the excavations.

Italian scholars and colleagues from the University of Pennsylvania, equipped with ultra-modern devices, located the exact site and unearthed ceramics and remains of buildings which confirmed historical data about the city and later colonies built on its site. But the remains fail to convey the legendary wealth.

Its rival neighbour, Croton, had not only done a thorough job of razing it to the ground in 510 BC, but had also diverted two rivers over it.

Less publicized but much richer finds have come from excavations of the cities of Heraclea, up the coast from Sybaris, and part of Hymera, east of Palermo.

One of the most important revelations in recent years has been the importance of Phoenician and Carthaginian colonies in Italy. Recent digs on Mozia, a small island off the west coast of Sicily and at San'Anteo, Monte Sirai and Antas in Sardinia, have yielded a mine of information about these invaders, and in particular their terrible custom of burning children alive as religious sacrifices.

Even now only a tiny part of Italy's ancient heritage has been brought to light. "At least 90 per cent is still buried in the ground and unknown", says Professor Vincenzo Tusa, Superintendent of Antiquities at Palermo.

Among the barren mountains of central Sicily are believed to be numerous cities and villages which records do not mention. It is now thought that many

other rich Romans had hidden villas on the island like the one at Piarmerina—which will probably be discovered only by chance.

Chance discovery often be disastrous. Workmen building the Messina-Palermo motor road into mosaics reputed to be as fine as those in Piarmerina. The motor was diverted at the cost of millions of pounds so the find could be excavated.

But the best part of a 4,000-year-old necropolis, destroyed by bulldozers parring the site for a hotel at Naxos before local superintendents intervene. Farmers developers keep quiet about any discoveries on property; if the land is fenced in, all work forbidden and able income or investment lost.

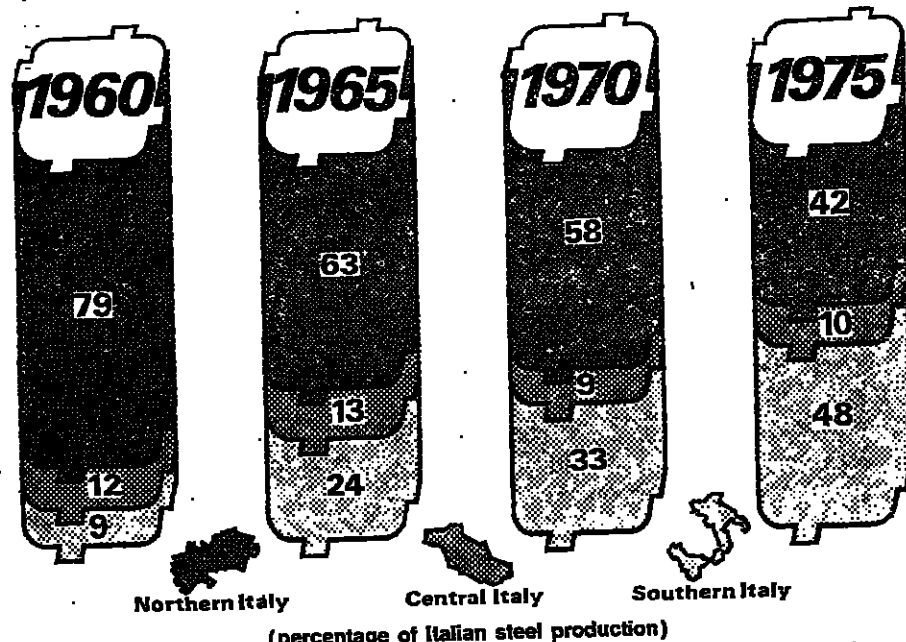
Although archaeologists of the south's tourist assets, too often for political economic pressures first. Sybaris was fortune Less renowned cities as Megara Hyblaea Tapsos have been dug by industries and development.

The valley of the river at Agrigento is one of most scandalous Hundreds of illegal ings there have allowed to go up, spoiling the beauty of the place covering possible uncovered remains.

One of the worst en of the archaeologist is Tombarolo, the grave who spirits away st and sarcophagi and tombs of the vases, money and other belong buried with the dead sells them, often abroad. Museums and private are full of treasure acquired this way. Tomb-robbing is big organized particularly in Sicily Calabria, by the which, according to on culation, makes as profit this way as it drug trafficking.

The shift in the centres of gravity of the
Italian steel industry to the

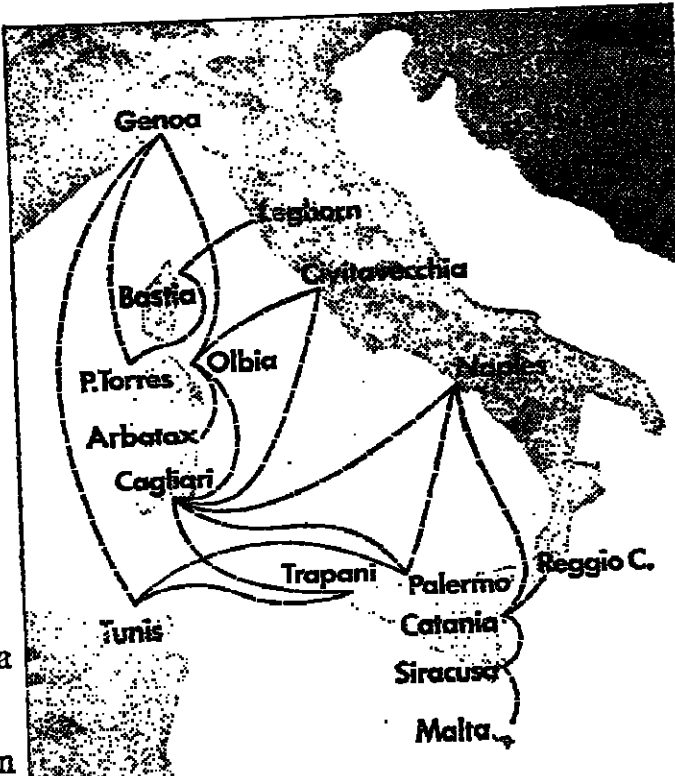
South of Italy



(percentage of Italian steel production)
The proportion of steel produced by the Mezzogiorno has of 48% by 1975, when expansion year. These production figures being made by the IRI-Finsider group, gradually rising from 8% Taranto will have been completed, with production capacity in 1980 to 24% in 1985, from 10.5 million metric tons a 33% in 1970 to a forecast figure of 10.5 million metric tons a

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the second half of this Special Report Giovanna Mourton, Simon Scott Plummer, John Earle, Peter Nichols, and Patricia Clough look at aspects of life in the eight regions of southern Italy

Britain's role in unique experiment

—where is Molise? any Italian and he say: "It is some south of Rome—near ...", and so on. Yet part of the Abruzzi which was known in 1964 as Abruzzi and has been a region in right for the past 10 years. It is divided into two provinces, that of Campobasso, the regional capital, Isernia, a small town away in the gentle hills of the lower Appen-

gine (the Italian fund for the rehabilitation of the South), with the approval of the Italian Ministry for Public Instruction.

With the prospect of the proposed decentralization of certain services handed over in 1972 to the regional government a group of local administrators decided in 1968 to set up a three-pronged experimental programme in which the people of Molise, with the help of Isernia, a small town away in the gentle hills of the lower Appen-

The main areas for the experiment are local government, preventive medicine, health education and academic education. Training and the introduction of new methods and techniques is a continuous process. The Associazione Comuni Molisani is the consortium of 62 municipalities which is promoting the experimental programme.

With the short-lived "Italian miracle", the economic boom of the 1950s, the tendency in most of the industrially developed areas of Italy had been to scrap traditional values and instead to imitate the way of life of older-established industrially developed countries. The Associazione Comuni Molisani is trying to avoid this at a time when some industrial development is taking place in Molise, in the coastal belt around Termoli and on the Venafro plain, just south of Cassino.

Molise is a region which, because of its isolation, has kept a real identity. Communications are still maintained by human contact. Everything that happens in the region is almost a family affair, in direct opposition to the anonymity of life in a large town. It is less necessary, therefore, to find more human forms of social services because, although social services are still an elementary stage, people are concerned about their neighbours.

A mixture of races makes up a population which in 1861 numbered 355,000, in 1951 406,000, in 1961 358,000, in 1971 322,000 and today 310,000. A large number of Albanian Christians, refugees from Turkish persecution, settled on the hillsides of the coastal belt of Molise where they have maintained their language and their religious rites. There is also a Slav element, grafted on to a basic strain of those Samnite



Remains of the Roman amphitheatre of Larinum in the region of Molise.

tribes which fought the Romans in bitter battles until their final subjugation in 83 BC.

For many centuries Molise was a corridor zone and a colony for many conquerors. 2,200 and 1,700 metres in height. Gentle hills, in which are folded unimpressive but charming villages, slope down to the emerald-purple Adriatic.

Unexpectedly, here and there, extraordinary features emerge—the Roman town of Altilia near Sepino, where sheep still graze in the forum and the shepherd still lives in a house perched on the small but perfect amphitheatre, and Pietrabbondante where, at 1,027 metres above sea level, there is a splendid Roman theatre.

Molise cannot yet cater for mass tourism or for the package holiday because its tourist development is limited. There is one ski resort at Campitello Matese, and Termoli, in spite of the Fiat works, is still a charming fishing town.

But it is not here that the essential character of Molise may be found. It is in the traffic-free winding roads where a car bearing anything but a local number plate is regarded as foreign, and in the coffee shop and in the square where everyone knows everyone else. If the village has no restaurant, if the traveller brings the right credentials, Maria or Rosina will provide a delightful meal with apologies for its simplicity.

The emigrants still maintain a stake in their villages or small towns, sending money back to improve their homes and hoping to return one day to live there, to find work or to retire in a place

Abruzzi

Unity replacing ancient gods in a changing land

Miss Anne Macdonnell wrote of Abruzzi in 1908: "This is the wild land of Abruzzi, set apart from the rest of Italy by its unamiable configuration and the rigours of its winter climate... pay it too much attention and it will come knocking at the doors of Rome for a larger share in the growing heritage of the nation."

Any Allied soldier who fought in the Battle of the Sangro in 1943-44 cannot agree that winter in Abruzzi is an unforgettable experience and may remember the cold, mud and snow. As for the growing claims of Abruzzi at the doors of Rome, in spite of massive attempts at industrial and tourist development, there are far too many people still forced to go abroad to find employment.

Miss Macdonnell also wrote that "the one thing that has remained an everlasting interest and power in the land is religion. It has been the supreme and permanent reality in a country where earthly powers and principalities have no permanence". Abruzzi has, for centuries, been the home of "oracle" diviners, "ecstasies" and "fanatics". The people have known white and black magic. "New they prostrate themselves before the fair Virgin of the Graces and now before the death's head..."

When, immediately after the Second World War, an attempt was made to bring emergency relief to this harassed region, the task seemed gigantic. The retreating Germans and the advancing Canadian and British troops cut a direct path over the mountains from Cassino to the north of the Sangro river on the Adriatic coast; the results were devastation, scorched earth, rubble and thousands of dead, soldiers and civilians. Many Abruzzi peasants were killed by the Germans for non-cooperation or for sheltering escaped Allied prisoners of war; in one mountain village alone, Pietrasseri, 126 women and children were shot out of a population of 600.

In this situation, where the roads were mere rubble paths, where all the bridges were down, where every river had to be forded, every



An artisan working in copper in Guardiagrele in the province of Chieti, Abruzzi region.

village rebuilt or repaired, were snow cut off entire communities for weeks on end and where the cold, like the poor, "always ye have". Reconstruction seemed an impossible task.

Slowly, however, vines were replanted, olive trees trimmed again, homes rebuilt, roads and bridges repaired. The famous Ortona grapes were sold again on German markets, and sleepy Francavilla al Mare, with its few stumps of remaining houses in 1946, slowly emerged into a fashionable seaside resort, while D'Annunzio's Pescara, from a small fishing town became a large, rather anonymous but thriving, self-conscious and pretentious city.

It was only through mass emigration however, in the

fact that from the high mountains the sea can be reached in a short time, and on a summer day it is a simple matter to leave the hot and humid coastal plains to find cool mountain air. Over all there is the magnificent scenery, with unbelievable colouring—rose-pink Majella and purple Gran Sasso—and the ever-changing Adriatic—emerald, violet, blue and jade.

Traditional crafts such as copper and wrought iron work, weaving and ceramics have been maintained at high standards and the regional tourist board has organized many exhibitions of these crafts abroad.

In spite of all this there is little to keep young people in the region and little prospect of regular employment for the unskilled, the semi-skilled and for the professionals. The only hope for these young people is still emigration. Although a number of technical institutes and training schools have been established, the standard of education still lags behind the needs of specialized industry requiring skilled technical workers, or those of the tourist trade in search of trained hotel staff, for example.

At any time on any day in every village and small town in Abruzzi, a large number of young people may be found, lounging in the cafés without buying a coffee or just standing around in the square. Their bitterness and despair are real, and hopelessness prevents them from organizing their "leisure time" as the whole of their day is leisure.

These circumstances, coupled with the Abruzzi's concern with the supernatural, have brought about a rapid change in the life of the region. From time immemorial religious festivals have played an important part in the life of Abruzzi, from the worship of the pre-Christian gods, and vestiges of this worship may still be found in the folds of the Majella mountain. Every town and village has its festa which more or less coincides with the completion of the harvest cycle and expense is not spared in an attempt to propitiate the particular patron saint for the coming year.

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Campania

The worst of both rural and urban worlds

Campania is unique in Italy in containing some of the poorest areas of the country and one of its main industrial centres. The largely mountainous provinces of Avellino and Benevento are in complete contrast to the coastal plain around Naples, which has a long industrial tradition and big manufacturers such as Alfa Sud (cars) and Italsider (steel).

Unfortunately, the region gets the worst of both rural and urban worlds. The first suffers from emigration, the second from congestion. In each case the basic problem is lack of work, despite the millions of lire poured into the South by the state to create jobs.

Benevento lies in the hills about 30 miles north-east of Naples, capital of a province whose population fell by

45,000 in the 1950s and 1960s. In 1971 Benevento was one of the seven poorest Italian provinces in revenue.

Although the number of people working on the land was nearly halved in the 1960s, agriculture accounted for 31.8 per cent of provincial revenue in 1971. This compared with 18.4 per cent for southern Italy as a whole.

The first step to overcome geographical isolation is the building of roads between the interior and the coast. The Caianello-Telesina Terme stretch of a motorway which will link Rome and Bari, in Puglia has been completed. A trunk road from Pescara in Abruzzi to Benevento via Vasto, Termoli and Campobasso is nearly finished and there are plans for an Apennine road down the centre of the country between Rieti

and Matera. If these are carried out Benevento will become an important centre of communications.

Industry in the province is largely confined to handicraft operations and food and drink firms, including Alberici, makers of the famous herbal liqueur, Strega.

Dr Giovanni Zarro, of the local development organization *consorzio industriale*, said that three industrial zones would be created around Benevento and in the Caudina and Telesina valleys. Manufacturers of glass, agricultural machinery and telephone equipment had already expressed an interest in them, and it was hoped that 5,000 jobs would be created in the next five years. In plan for doubling the size of the plant had been suspended, and there was talk

of closing down the operation if conditions did not improve. The experience of IMEVA hardly augured well for the *consorzio* projects.

We then drove through one of the poorest parts of the province to the north of Benevento, where land has been abandoned for failing to provide a living. We crossed some hills and descended to Reimello valley. The beauty of the scenery brought home the tragedy of emigration from the countryside to the big cities.

This impression is heightened coming off the motorway and descending into the maelstrom of Naples, where more than 1,200,000 people are squeezed between the hills and the sea.

First there is the traffic. Signor Bruno Misasi, the mayor, has said that the city

is dying of this modern plague, and it is hard to contradict him. Cars are reduced to walking pace or less in the centre and the jams last from 8 am till late at night.

The sight of stationary vehicles burning petrol at about 90p a gallon is one of the cruelest manifestations of the consumer society which the Italians have espoused with such vigour.

A ring road, which will take traffic behind the city from Pozzuoli in the west to the motorway in the north-east, is under construction and there are plans for an underground railway through the centre. Meanwhile, Naples seizes up.

To the west Naples has expanded up and over the hills in extraordinary profusion. Areas designated as green spaces in the 1939 plan for city development have disappeared under concrete.

Halfway down the buildings of the Corso Vittorio Emanuele follow the line of the hills. Above, in Vomero and Posillipo Alto, they rise at an angle, completely submerging the land on which they stand. To the east the spread is horizontal, along the bay beneath Vesuvius and round towards Sorrento.

In 1968 a new urban law brought the building boom to a halt but there are fears that speculators are about to move in on the centre.

The municipality's plan for modernizing the centre is the creation of two new towns outside Naples, each with 60,000 inhabitants, at Secondigliano and Ponticelli.

People would be moved out and buildings in the centre would be demolished to create green spaces. The municipality also wished to see the development of five million metres of office space around the central station.

Secondigliano has already been criticized as a ghetto for workers and its architecture described as boxes with inadequate services. The removal of people from the centre without providing work presents many problems, as the old quarters have their own distinctive economy which enables the inhabitants to scrape a living.

Naples has drawn up plans for seven industrial zones around the city but attracting firms to them during an economic recession will be difficult. Meanwhile, unemployment and under-employment rise and there is the prospect of southerners returning home if workers are laid off in northern Europe.

Dr Gaetano Vigliar, director of the local *consorzio industriale*, said that plans drawn up in 1968 spoke of creating 100,000 jobs to achieve full employment.

Since then Alfa Sud had arrived, with work for 15,000 but the flow of people from agriculture meant that 100,000 jobs or more were now needed to fulfil the plan.

In a study on the impact of Alfa Sud on Campania's economy, the regional Government criticized the company for failing to integrate with its surroundings. Decisions on supplies and planning are taken in Milan, not in Pomigliano d'Arco, and little effort has been made to encourage small local firms as suppliers. The report estimates that Alfa Sud placed only 13.1 per cent of its orders in the region last year.

Signor Ugo Grippo, the councillor responsible for the budget and planning, points out that the flight from the land has created a grossly inflated third rank sector. He suggests that special attention should be given to livestock rearing. Agricultural bodies covering several communes should be set up to overcome the smallness and fragmentation of holdings and to promote marketing organizations that would by-pass "the long series of parasitic middle men".

Industry is characterized by a lack of integration between different sectors, according to Signor Grippo. In metallurgy/mechanics, chemicals, food and textiles, firms tend to invest more in restructuring themselves than in broadening the range of their products. Closer connections are required between the large industries and smaller local companies. This would create more jobs and lead to the production of high technology goods.

Turning to tourism, Signor Grippo says the region's natural and historical heritage is being destroyed through abandonment in the interior and by brutal abandonment on the coast. Nevertheless, Campania still possesses one of the richest tourist areas of the world.

The Bay of Naples, dominated by Vesuvius, the islands of Capri and Ischia, and the classical monuments of Pompeii, Herculaneum and Paestum helped to bring more than 1,600,000 people to the region this season. Last year's cholera outbreak, which killed more than 20 people in the Naples area, was a shock to the local authorities. Work has been undertaken to improve the sewage system, though it has come under fire for damaging marine life by pumping chlorine into the bay.

The epidemic and the economic recession in Europe led to a fall of 70,000 in the numbers of foreign tourists this year, although the total number of visitors rose slightly.

attracted less capital investment than hoped for, and local officials say that only about a third of the water supplies available for industry is used. In its lower reaches nearer the sea the Basento Valley has become a rich agricultural and market gardening area—one of the few success stories in the postwar land reform.

The region's two main towns have been in the news recently. In Potenza a left-wing Roman Catholic movement has taken root in several parishes, organizing teach-ins and publishing an unofficial magazine on problems of the family and political life.

Relations have been strained with the archbishop, Monsignor Aurelio

Sorrentino, and in the cathedral was occupied for prayer and fasting. Parish priests were away from the area failing to exhort parishioners to vote at a referendum last May.

Matera has organized international competition what to do with its These are the ancient dwellings on the edge ravine, occupied at one by 18,000 people, who been moved in recent to new public housing, sassi are unique in and their future show the competition announced next September.



A typical street scene and pizzeria at Positano, a small port and bathing resort in Campania.

The remains of a Doric temple at Metapontum in Basilicata.

Basilicata

Neglected instep in the boot

Sandwiched between Puglia and Calabria, Basilicata is liable to be forgotten, an ignored instep in the Italian boot. Politically, it is dominated by the Christian Democrats who form the regional government.

They manage without a coalition, although their 42 per cent of the votes in the 1970 election against the Communists' 26 per cent gave them only 14 of the 30 seats in the regional assembly. In all other senses, the region tends to lack unity, for half looks east and half west, its personality is split between the provinces of Matera, adjoining Puglia, and Potenza, on the edge of Campania.

It cannot even claim one undisputed name. Some call it Lucania, from the original inhabitants, but as this title was resurrected by the Fascists it has officially returned to Basilicata, from the Byzantine word *basilikos*, as the ruler was called in the time of the Norman knights in the twelfth century.

The traveller cannot escape feeling the heritage of the past, whether he visits the ruins of the one temple standing in Pythagoras's city of Metapontum, the mysterious and as yet unexcavated fortifications on Monte Croce-Cognato, or the forest still remaining near the lively Lucanian Dolomites, remnants of those once covering much of southern Italy.

This is the province chosen by past regimes for exiling political subversives, as described by Carlo Levi in *Christ Stopped at Eboli*. The villagers still tell stories of the ancient Romans, of Hannibal, of Norman knights and Saracen intruders, though whether they can be believed is another matter. One, however, merits mention if not credence—that the highly spiced sausages carried by Lucanian shepherds are the descendants of those taken in the knapsacks of Roman legionaries north of the Alps as far as the Teutoburger Wald, thus giving the *wurst* to the Germans.

Landslides damage transport

Nature has not been kind to the 600,000 Lucanians (there is no adjective for Basilicata). Some of their mountainous and infertile land is friable and subject to landslides, so that it is common to have to make detours round missing patches of road. Even the modern highway connecting the regional capital of Potenza with the Autostrada del Sole and the Ionian coast has suffered damage at the Basento valley, while the main railway line to Taranto has been blocked.

Like other parts of the Mezzogiorno, Basilicata has been unable to offer a living to recent generations, and the migration rate is heavy. In Potenza the local authorities run a comprehensive catering and hotel school for youths under an enthusiastic director, but the small tourist industry in the region is unable to offer them jobs and many while still under training are booked by hotels in Germany, Switzerland or elsewhere.

Perhaps the region's best known seaside resort is Maratea on its small stretch of Tyrrhenian coast between Campania and Calabria. The region lacks a state university and a locally published daily newspaper.

The Superstrada was the third breakthrough to offer a better chance of overcoming backwardness in the area. The first was the conquest of malaria; the second the discovery of natural gas in the Basento valley in 1959. As a result a nucleus of factories has sprung up, of which the best known, at Pisticci, is owned by Anic, the chemical subsidiary of the state-owned ENI oil and gas corporation, and produces man-made fibres.

S.S.P.

EGAM

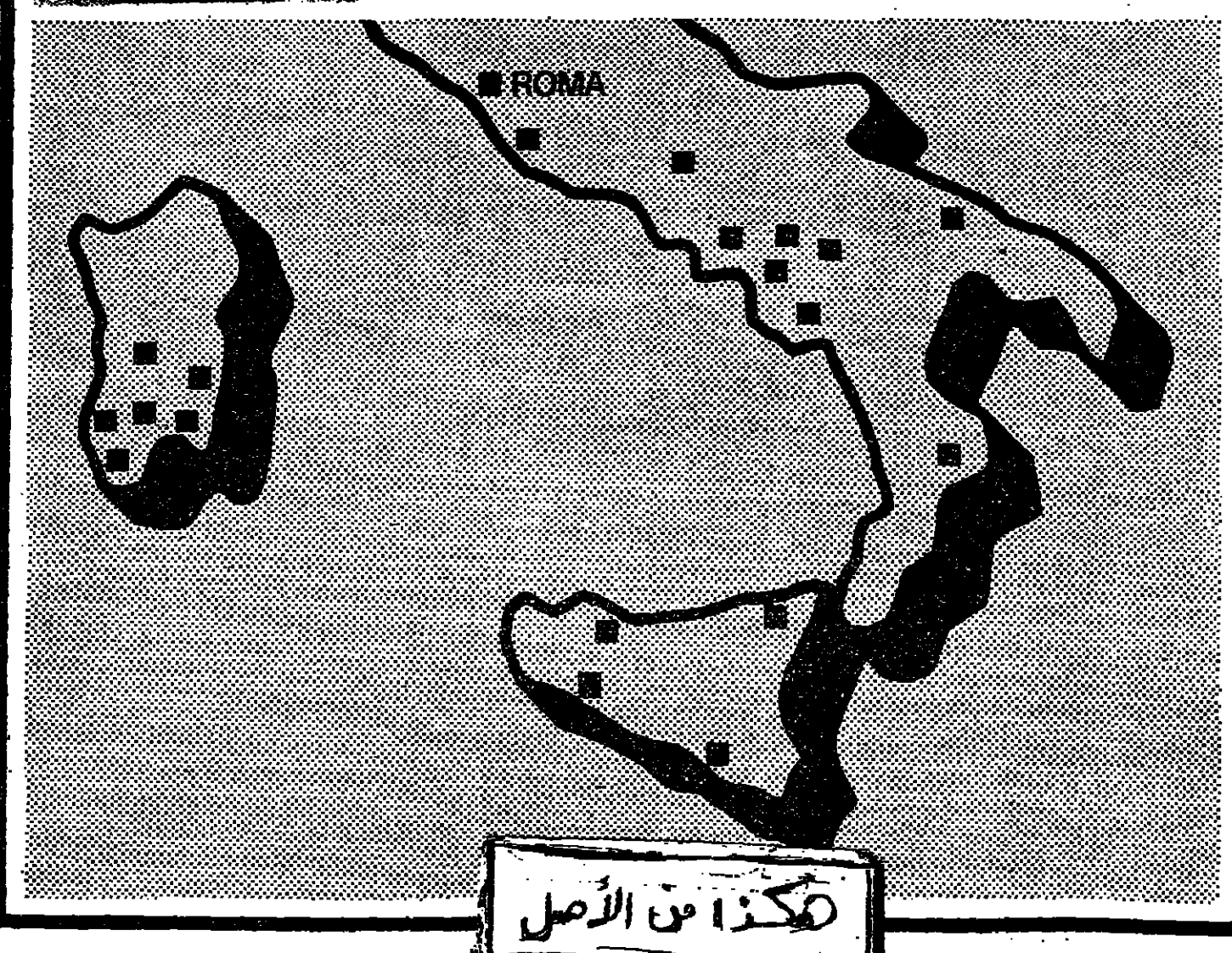
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Steelworks could disprove the 'cathedral in the desert' theory

Valentino were aged 18, sought a future by emigrating to the United States.

Over half the 19,000 workers at the city of Taranto but from villages as far as 45km away in the surrounding Puglian countryside. Some continue to inhabit the picturesque trulli cottages with white-washed, conical roofs which are becoming a tourist attraction for foreigners as well as Italians.

The management are anxious to avoid forming a new urban proletariat and encourage workers and their families to remain linked to the land, as cultivators of vineyards and olive groves.

The bus services connecting the outlying villages are not always over-punctual, but most can by-pass the bottleneck of Taranto on their way to the steelworks on the western outskirts.

Taranto, the ancient Greek Taras, known for its naval base, its oysters, and for introducing cats to Europe, has an urban problem in its old city.

This is a labyrinth of arm's width alleys on an island between the bay and an inner lagoon, the Mare Piccolo and, incidentally, lies a little too close to smoke from the steelworks when the wind is in the wrong direction. But for workers living in Taranto

the authorities have built a housing estate on the mainland named after Pope Paul. It will soon be joined to the main city by a bridge across the Mare Piccolo, while a nearly completed motorway will link Taranto to Bari and the national network.

Taranto is not the only industrial centre in the region. Bari has its factories, Brindisi its petrochemical plants and near Lecce a factory was opened not long ago to make earth

moving equipment. But Taranto is the biggest and most modern of Italy's integrated steel complexes and after the commissioning of its fifth blast furnace today, will be the largest in Western Europe. Annual output will rise to 10,500,000 tons in 1976 and, though further extension of production is not at present foreseen, a sizeable amount of work will still be done on improving the port and other facilities. Built since the early

1960s, Taranto has occupied a prominent place in the 'cathedral in the desert' controversy. This is the name given to white elephants of plants which critics of the Government's Mezzogiorno policy say are and mechanical workshops have sprung up. Each employs anything from 100 to nearly 1,000 workers. Several planning and consultants' offices have opened in Taranto, including one of Uniyac, initially

say there are now signs that the plant is attracting some small industry; the cathedral may not yet be surrounded by parish churches, but some chapels can be seen.

for servicing the plant's computer and information installation, but now welcoming other customers. Furthermore, the management says, the steelworks in 1973 bought nearly half (46 per cent) of its Italian supplies from Mezzogiorno firms. They hope that Taranto will prove the pioneer success story of a large plant integrating into the Mezzogiorno economy.

J.E.

Prism the moving force in ambitious development

From the steel plant to another attempt at development, the town of Taranto is moving as its moving

development began a few years ago. It enjoyed fame as an outstanding town set in the region's most picturesque. It stands above the sea in a separated grove, almond market gardens.

of Saracen occupation

Centre is built of cal stone and its

of the years of occupation, its architecture has been architectural. The return of the town in the tenth century place back importance and it is a glorification of the Anguins its The Aragonese its fortifications city gates and

in never at any history have such as literary prizes, concentrated a heavy contests and—so far construction as at the most ambitious of all—Taranto has a large centre of international sport

and reasonably luxurious hotel close to the old city which is illuminated at night. Other hotels and villas are being built on the same hilltop.

The beaches have come in for ambitious attention. The Italian company specializing in the building and running of holiday villages, Valtur, has settled on the coast beneath Ostuni and provides, as well as accommodation, the now familiar facilities of special care for children, a wide variety of sports, concerts, tours and shops. Its layout won it one of the National Institute of Architecture's annual prizes.

Signor Giuseppe Orlando, the municipal councillor in charge of tourist development, points out that Ostuni is profiting in less immediately obvious ways from its new guise. Emigration on the part of men feeling that they had to leave in order to find a living has now stopped, he says.

The local inhabitants are growing accustomed to dealing with people from outside their local circle and becoming more at home in a modern world without having to suffer the disruptions and shock which inevitably accompany industrialization.

These contacts are not limited to guests of the town who go there on holiday. Ostuni is specializing in becoming a centre of events such as literary prizes, heavy contests and—so far construction as at the most ambitious of all—Taranto has a large centre of international sport

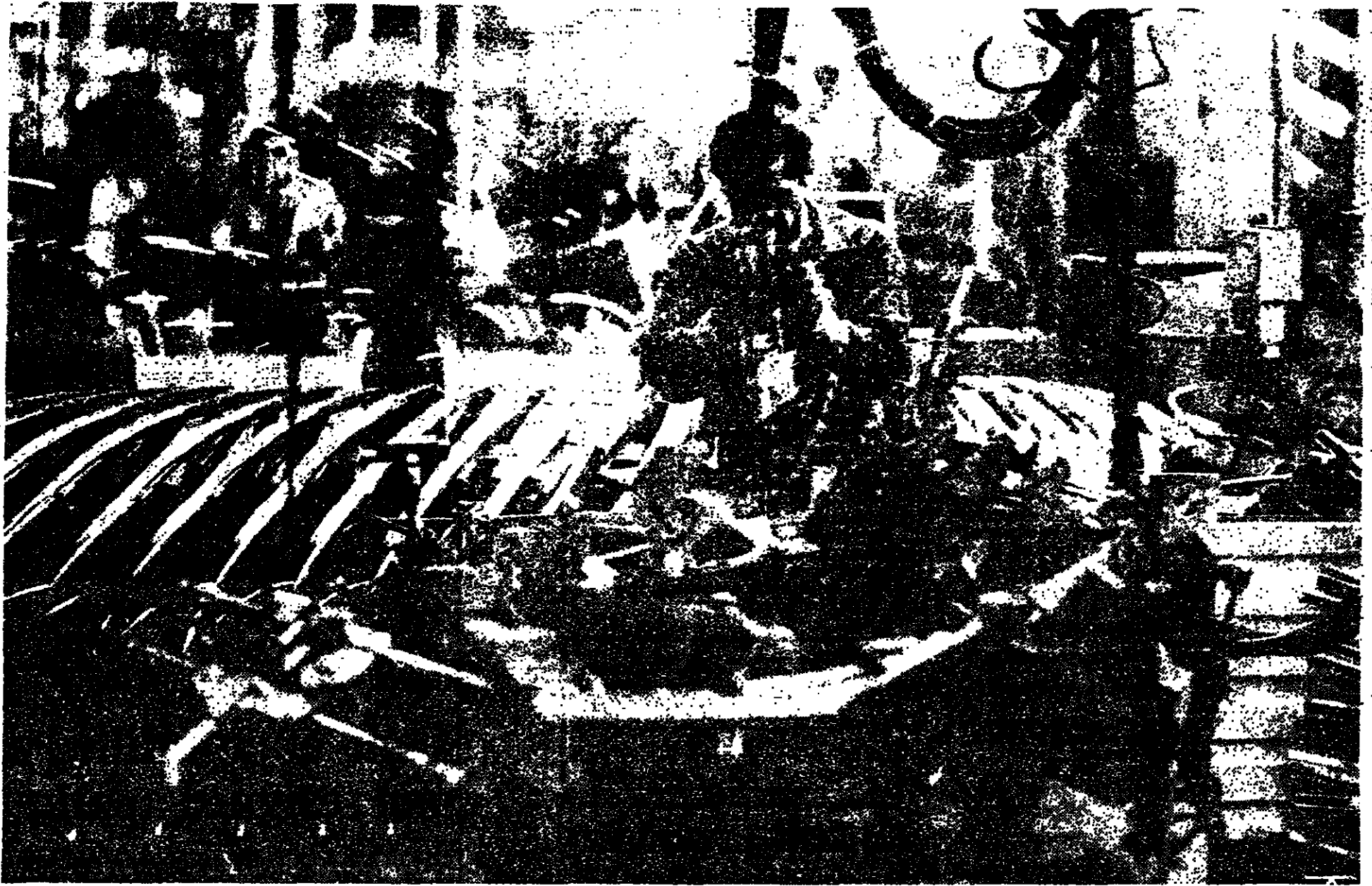
which will reach a notable height in 1977 when the town expects 100,000 people for the world cycling championships.

The ancient core of the city is taking on a new purpose. Artists from Milan and, especially, from Rome are settling there and adapting the old houses as studios. At the same time the municipality is strongly encouraging the policy of adopting sufficient of the original inhabitants to remain in order that the town retains its character. The first purchases of these old houses by outsiders were some four years ago.

Conference being organized

Ostuni is now organizing a conference to study the problem of how the mentality can best be created among the original inhabitants who will favour staying in these old centres. It is an issue now regarded as paramount to the campaign at European level to preserve historic centres.

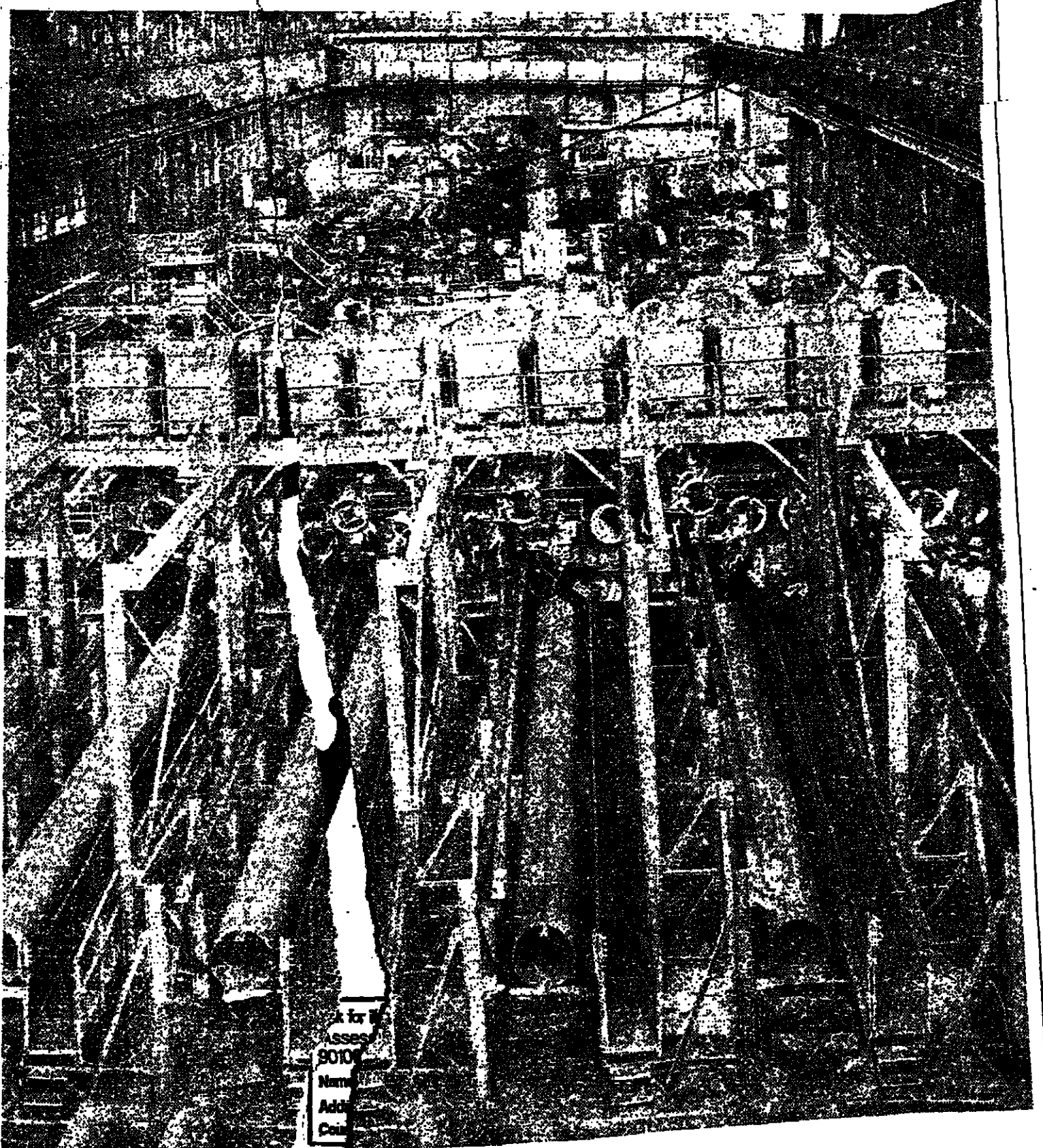
If Ostuni succeeds, the municipality will have found a compromise between teaching a new outlook and inviting a new type of inhabitant, as well as temporary guests, while leaving something of the town's personality as one of its attractive centres of tradition.



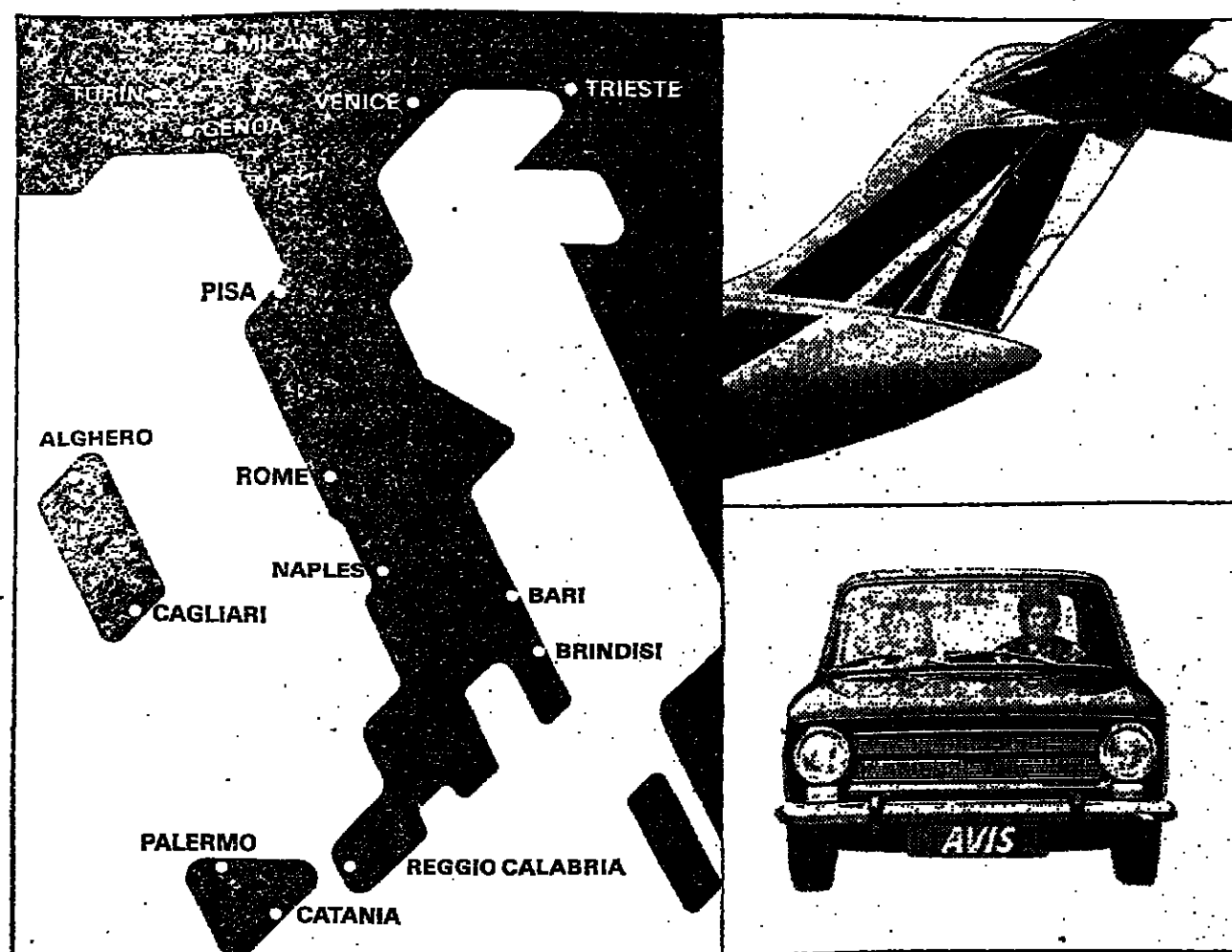
P.N. Inside the Italsider steelworks at Taranto, the biggest and most modern of Italy's integrated steel complexes.

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Oil works at Gioia Tauro in Calabria.

Calabria

Land of unfulfilled promises and resigned apathy

Calabria risks being looked on as a kind of never-never land, a region of unfulfilled promises. The projected bridge across the Strait of Messina, talked about by politicians for years, is so far no more substantial than the Fata Morgana.

This is the mirage named by Norman knights after King Arthur's sister Morgan le Fay which, when the play of light is right, can be seen from Reggio di Calabria towards the Sicilian shore. Work has set to begin on the promised Gioia Tauro steelworks which, even if admittedly uneconomic, for many in the province has become a symbol of whether the Government is at least prepared to do something for them.

Nature and history have combined to stack the cards against Calabria. The 1908 earthquake which flattened Reggio as well as Messina is only one of many throughout the region over the centuries. Communications are often interrupted by landslides and floods, and every rainstorm washes another layer of soil down the mountainside into the sea, leaving the rock underneath. Government has too often been synonymous with oppression and exploitation. It is a common complaint by the Calabresi that under Bourbon rule they were neglected, under united Italy's House of Savoy they were driven to brigandage or exiled to die in distant wars, and under Fascism they were sent to settle in the ephemeral African empire.

The population has fallen

In consequence Calabria, like its neighbour Basilicata, is one of the most backward areas of Italy. Passages on poverty and isolation written on their travels by Edward Lear in the nineteenth century and Norman Douglas early in this century still have a familiar ring. Despite a high birth rate, the population has sunk in recent years to below two million, as the most active elements emigrate, leaving behind apathy and resignation.

Yet once the cities of Magna Grecia were in the vanguard of civilization. In a sense something has been preserved for, in contrast to Sicily with north-south axis of a Norman-Arab heritage, Calabria has still its eastward links, with a number of Greek and Albanian-inhabited villages and a general feeling in the air of Byzantium and the Balkans. Although the Normans passed through Calabria too, there is little of the northern spirit except for the almost Swiss pastures of the Sila Plateau. Two places could hardly be less alike than the olive groves of Maida Vale and the London suburb thus named to commemorate a minor British

troops in 1806.

Slowly, however, the foundations for progress are being laid, particularly in communications. In the words of the Christian Democrat regional Premier, Signor Aldo Ferrara, Calabria's age-old isolation, which still existed 10 years ago, has now been broken and the region has one of the best road systems in the Mezzogiorno. Signor Ferrara, aged 53, a lawyer from Catanzaro, recently succeeded Professor Antonio Guarasci, killed in a road accident, whose death left a gap in the region's political life.

A notable increase in traffic

The Motorway of the Sun, now reaching from Milan and Rome to Reggio, has brought a notable increase in traffic, even if some Calabresi stubbornly maintain that it was built to help not them but Fiat and northern manufacturers wanting to unload their wares on the south. Several modern feeder roads are nearly completed across the toe of the boot, linking the Tyrrhenian and Ionian seas. The main railway line has been double-tracked down to Reggio.

The runways have been built for a new continental airport at Saint'Eufemia and tourism. Catanzaro on the Ionian coast has been for years a small centre for the chemical and other industries, but new initiatives are springing up like that of Società Italiana Resine at Saint'Eufemia and of Liquigas at Saline near Reggio. Gioia Tauro is due to have its steelworks, even if it will not be as large as at first envisaged.

Unfortunately there have been also a number of failed industrial initiatives. As Signor Ferrara expressed it, the state has not only helped with its incentives at the baptism of new enterprises, but has found itself involved in too many funerals. The Reggiani are resentful over the fact that a railway rolling stock factory which, they say, government leaders promised would give work to 2,500, employs only 350.

There is little foreign investment, beyond some Swiss-financed textiles plants and some foreign-owned tourist villages. The Calabresi themselves admit that they have lagged behind the Sicilians in tourism, and the attractiveness of their towns is unfortunately not enhanced by

an apparent insensitiveness to the presence of refuse and litter. However, the region has taken action to preserve its coasts with a law prohibiting building within 150 yd of the shore.

But the region, which started operating only in spring, 1972, is still weak and struggling against an uphill task. National politics has some leading Calabresi in Signor Giacomo Mancini of the Socialists and Signor Riccardo Misasi of the Christian Democrats, but they are from Cosenza in the North, which only seems to exacerbate feelings in Reggio di Calabria in the South.

Reggio is probably the region's most difficult single problem—the riots of 1970 caused by being passed over for Catanzaro as regional capital are still remembered. The biggest town with 160,000 inhabitants, it lacks a role and threatens to become a slum sprawling along one of Italy's most beautiful coasts, looking across to Sicily and Etna volcano. Smouldering discontent, fanned by the neofascists, could bring further eruptions of violence.

Most kidnap-prone region

The region needs outside investment, but a deterrent is the internal security situation. A common subject of conversation is a recent series of 26 or 27 kidnappings, many of them of businessmen and shopkeepers, for whom ransoms as low as 50m to 75m lire (£30,000 to £50,000) may be all that is asked. Calabria has now surpassed Sardinia as the Mezzogiorno's most kidnap-prone region.

Signor Ferrara would like to see a regional finance corporation set up. The region could be better served by newspapers. The *Giornale di Calabria* was launched not long ago as a daily published in Cosenza, but it is criticized as too much biased in favour of Signor Mancini, and much of the region relies on a Sicilian newspaper, the *Gazzetta del Sud* of Messina.

Most of all, the region needs a change of mentality away from the old apathy and resignation. Valuable spadework is being done in this respect by the University of Calabria, now in the process of formation four and half miles north of Cosenza.

It is revolutionary by Italian standards in that, in addition to applying teaching methods inspired by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, it will be residential. Eventually 8,400 out of the 12,000 students will live in university accommodation, able to follow courses at the four faculties on arts and philosophy, mathematics, physical and natural sciences, engineering, and economic and social sciences.

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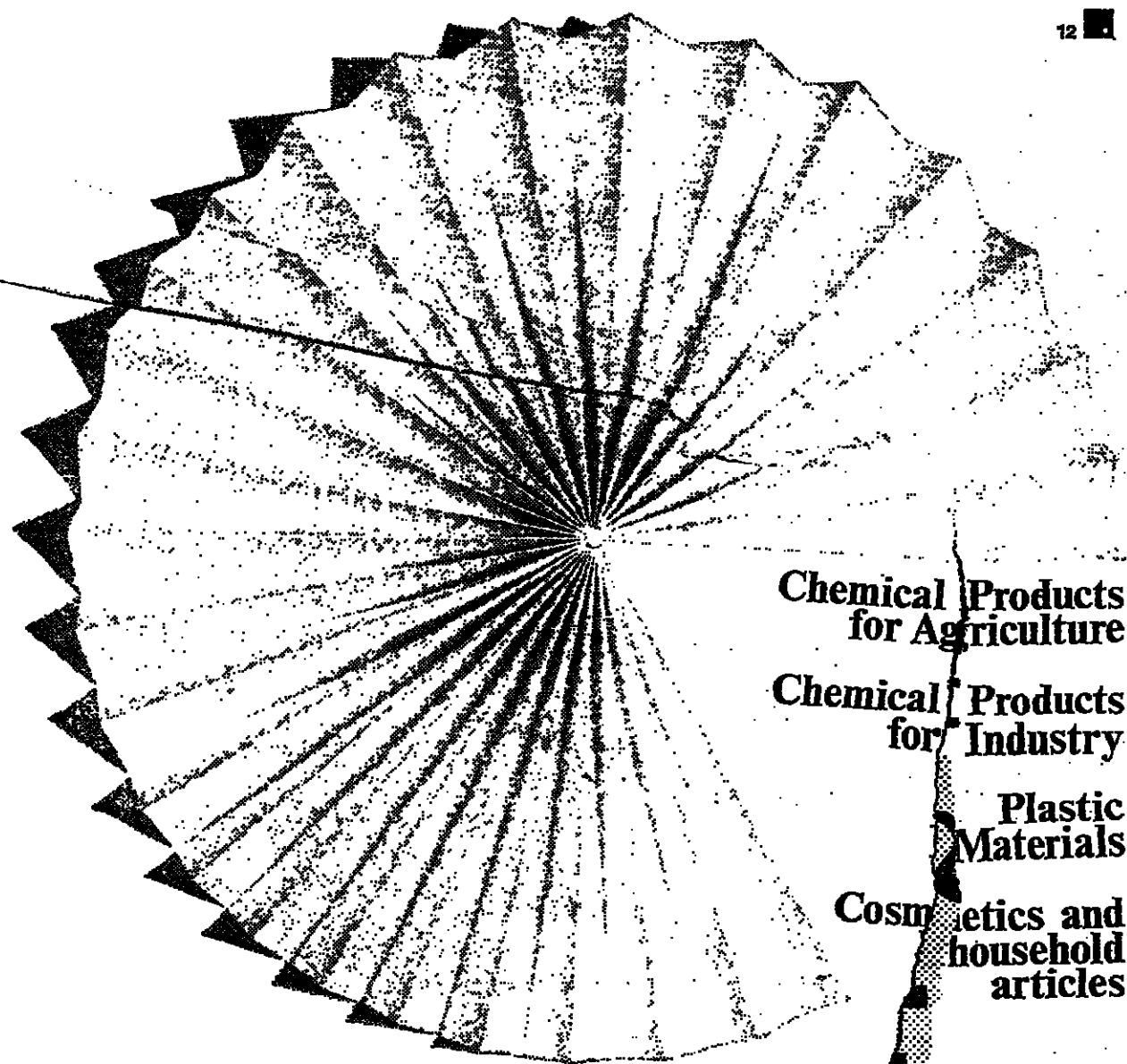
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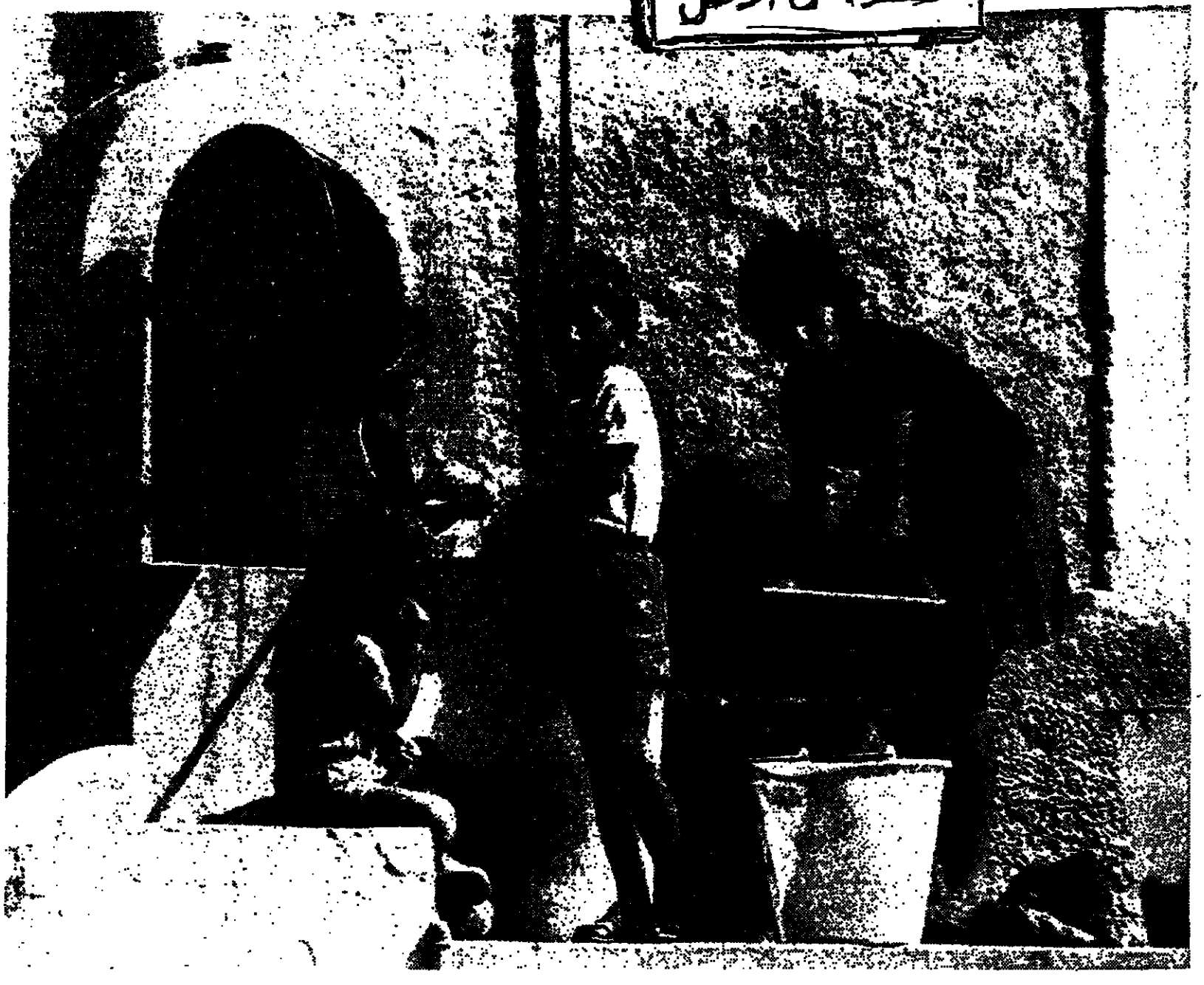
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Just the day for a bathe on Vulcano, one of the Lipari islands off Sicily, and (right) just the day for doing some washing in the old city of Agrigento.

and grazing land, was expropriated and divided up among peasants for intensive cultivation. The nobility which owned cultivated estates—vineyards, olive or citrus groves—were spared, though the subsequent agricultural crisis has drastically diminished the income from such property. As fortunes dissolved, so did power, authority and prestige. The people who counted more and more were, and are, the politicians, the party managers and the newly rich, in particular the building Sicily's leading contemporary writers and social observers. "Palermo society is such, thanks only to the exploitation of certain political and administrative positions." The ordinary people—for this has been a power, not a social revolution—used to cling to the big noble families who gave them livelihood and protection but now turn for jobs and favours to the new overlords, whose power is no less great. Beyond these new notables is a second group, which has been called the "society of leopards" faring in the land of the jackals and hyenas? Some have been able to stay wealthy, by adapting to the new situation, such as indulging themselves in land speculation. But generally, according to Signor Sciascia, they intend to die as they have lived, despising money matters, keeping out of politics, neglecting their property and resigning to their fate. Baron Gabriel Calafati is less gloomy. "The desire now is to excel in other fields, especially in the professions", he says. Baron Calafati, whose family owned vast estates near Caltanissetta, is a senior executive in the Italian Broadcasting Company. Marquess Nicolo Notarbartolo di Montalegno, whose family, one of Palermo's greatest, includes three princes, a duke, two marquesses and three counts, is a dental surgeon. The present Prince of Lampedusa is an historian and music critic. Others are doctors, lawyers, engineers, judges. However, old attitudes die hard and the peasant-turned constructor in his shining Maserati is still overawed by the count in his elderly Fiat. His wife tries to imitate the habits and tastes of the nobility. Although younger members of the nobility, particularly the professional men, mix freely with the new middle class society, the old mentality still often persists among the elderly. A countess can still sniff indignantly as a villager has the "impudence" to greet her with "buon giorno, contessa", instead of "baciame le mani, contessa"—kiss your hands, the centuries-old expression of respect and submission. A young landowner who sleeps all day, plays cards all night and refuses to look after his family property is still regarded by his parents as "un gran signore", while a local lad who has become one of Italy's most promising young artists, despite his success, fame and fortune, will for them never be anything but the boy who used to peddle cigarettes on the local station and therefore is not receivable in their salon.

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Sardinia

Industry takes its incentives into the stronghold of banditry

"Usually, the life level is reckoned as sea level. But in the heart of Sardinia, the life level is high as the golden plateau and the sea level is somewhere far away, below, in the gloom, it does not signify."

So wrote D. H. Lawrence on a brief visit to Sardinia from Sicily 50 years ago. His remarks were inspired by the village of Tonara in the great Gennargentu massif, the remote and empty core of the island whose slopes, covered with cork oak and chestnut, culminate in the 6,000ft Punta la Marmora and whose pastoral society remained largely untouched by successive waves of invaders.

During the past 15 years the inhabitants of the central province of Nuoro might have been forgiven for thinking that Lawrence's judgment had been turned on its head. It is the coast, not the mountainous interior, which has been favoured by the

policy of heavy industrial investment in southern Italy—petrochemicals at Sarrach, near Cagliari, and at Porto Torres, near Sassari, and aluminium at Porto Vesme.

Between 1961 and 1971 Nuoro's population fell by 10,185, compared with gains of 47,923 for Cagliari and 16,700 for Sassari, the other two Sardinian provinces. In the 20 years after the creation of the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno, the net income per head in Nuoro rose from 127,843 lire to 641,827 lire.

In Cagliari the increase was from 158,426 lire to 840,728 lire and in Sassari from 129,266 lire to 878,838 lire. In spite of the criticism levelled at the new industrial complexes, they have improved standards of living and, to a certain extent, they have staunchly the flow of emigrants.

Accordingly, the state decided to bring industry to Nuoro to pump up its sag-

ging economy. Five industrial poles or agglomerati have been chosen, Ottana, Sologo near Lula, Macomer, Sarcidano near Isili, and Sini.

The first four will have petrochemical-based plants taking raw materials from Porto Torres and Sarrach while Sini will be reserved for small, pollution-free industries. In each case it is hoped that the initial investment will encourage local manufacturers, without whom the province cannot reach its goal of full employment.

Senator Giasue Ligios, president of the Nuoro development organization, said the five centres should provide jobs for about 15,000 people at an official cost of 600,000m lire (540m), though this figure would rise with inflation. Roads would be built around the plants to enable the workers to reach them easily.

Ostiano on the west coast would be the main link with

the outside world. An industrial port with a draught of 12 metres was under construction and an oil pipeline will run from there to Ottana and eventually to Sologo. There were plans for a railway between Ottana and Abbasanta, which is on the main Cagliari-Sassari line.

The largest agglomerato, and the one which has most to show so far, is at Ottana, a drab village in the Tiroso valley. Approaching from the mountains to the north two tall smoke stacks are seen surrounded by modern plant in the middle of nowhere.

The complex contains one of the largest chemical and textile units in the world and it is expected to employ 7,000 people. Yet it looks like a typical "cathedral in the desert" of southern Italian fame, high technology in a pastoral setting, with sheep grazing by the boundary fence.

"To refuse industry is to

refuse modern society", Senator Ligios said. The creation of agglomerati would break down a closed society and provide jobs in a short time. They could bring psychological and ecological problems but without them the whole of central Sardinia would die.

He thought that they might even help to eliminate the banditry for which the province of Nuoro is notorious. However, it can equally well be argued that the threat to traditional ways of life implied by outside investment could lead to renewed kidnappings by conservative-minded bandits.

On the whole, Sardinians accept that they must learn to live with the petrochemical industry, though some people wish it had never started on the island. There is a feeling that it is a foreign presence from the "continent" (the Italian mainland). Sardinia's sense

of alienation from the state to which it belongs is reflected in roadside slogans such as *Saraigne=Colonia* and *Emigrazione=Deportazione*.

One young man who works in the regional administration said he would like to put a bomb under the petrochemical plants; they were dirty and did not provide enough jobs. Senator Luigi Pirastu, a member of the regional secretariat of the Communist Party, said that mining, small and medium-scale businesses and agriculture had been sacrificed to large privately-managed companies living off public funds.

The state is aware of this lack of balance. A law published earlier this year provides for a new type of development based on the reform of pastoral farming and the creation of small-scale industry. A total of 600,000 lire has been set aside for its implementation.

In Nuoro about 40 per cent of a population of 285,000 live off the land. Senator Ligios said it would fall to 10 per cent if agriculture was run on modern lines.

Forestry held the best prospects in view of the shortage of wood in the European Economic Community though large sums would be needed for it. Sheep farming was another strength of the province but cattle-raising was hampered by lack of irrigation.

Senator Ligios said that 350,000m lire had been put aside for agriculture in Sardinia over the next 10 years and 100,000m lire for livestock. A great effort would be made in the primary sector over the next five years.

The particular problems of Sardinia have been recognized and the change of emphasis has been generally welcomed. In industry it remains to be seen whether local businessmen can thrive on the base laid in the 1960s.

So far the lion's share of new investment is being undertaken by the same groups as before, such as SIR and ENI.

Critics of the ruling parties say Sardinia's problems will not be solved without thoroughgoing political reform. Signor Giuseppe Fiori, an Italian journalist, has written that the client system has turned the region into a "contributions factory". Local administration is based on the national model and has the same faults—lack of coordination between departments, elephantine bureaucracy and failure to predict trouble.

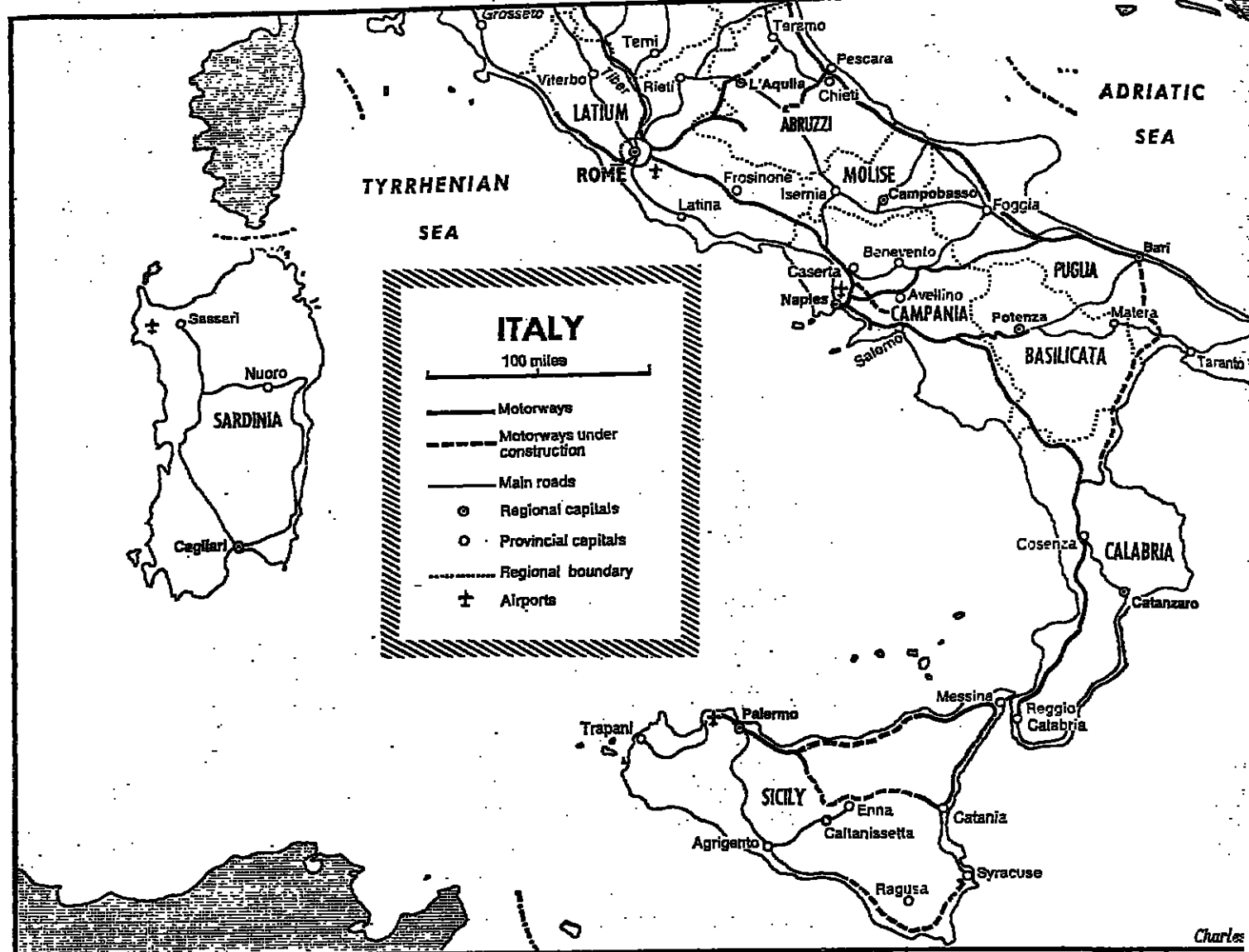
Senator Pirastu accused the Christian Democrats and Socialists of trying to absorb social pressures by enlarging the services sector (public administration, banks and petty commerce). This meant the expansion of unproductive, even parasitic, sectors of the economy in an island which had the lowest level of active population

(28.7 per cent in 1971) in southern Italy. What more, the policy had there, were thousands of young people with and diplomas who could find work.

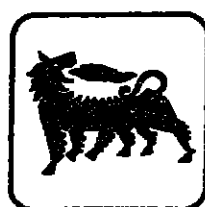
This year has furnished ample evidence of Christian Democracy's influence and its role in Sardinia. In May the island held the highest vote in Italy in favour of the referendum on that issue, ruling party had the weight against it. Two months later regional elections took place. Christian Democrats won 55 per cent of the vote, while the Communist Party gained seven per cent of the vote. The Christian Democrats have given that they expect things of their rule.



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